The Middlebury Campus

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Debate focuses on SGA representation, commons

By Megan Sowards
Staff Writer

The role of the SGA was heavily scrutinized at Monday night's presidential and vice-presidential debates.

Presidential Candidates Bryan Stratton '98 and A.J. Poor '98, and Vice-Presidential Candidates Alyson Cucci '98 and Chris Vaughan '98 also debated questions centering around the commons system, the alcohol policy and the role of Campus Security.

Presidential Candidates

Prompted by Stratton's campaign which has questioned the effectiveness of the SGA, both presidential candidates addressed what they see as the major problems with the current governmental system.

"Though the SGA has the capacity to represent you it does not," said Stratton. "It has been used and abused by resume padders and aspiring bureaucrats," continued Stratton to cheers of support from the audience.

While Poor believes that the SGA does accomplish its goal of representing the student body, she agreed that a lack of communication is contributing to the organization's "image" problem.

"The SGA is very effective at what it does," said Poor. "However there is a lack of communication between students and the SGA. It is really important that class and dorm representative have a lot of interactions with their class and dorm groups."

The two candidates' disagreed concerning the extent of the SGA representative system. Poor proposed an expanded representative body including commons representatives, while Stratton favored a voluntary representative system. "It is time to change the structure of the SGA," said Stratton. "I would be willing to have the SGA not have representatives and just have people show up who are concerned and committed to the issues."

Poor proposed that SGA representatives hold informal office hours at mealtimes in Proctor. "One way to

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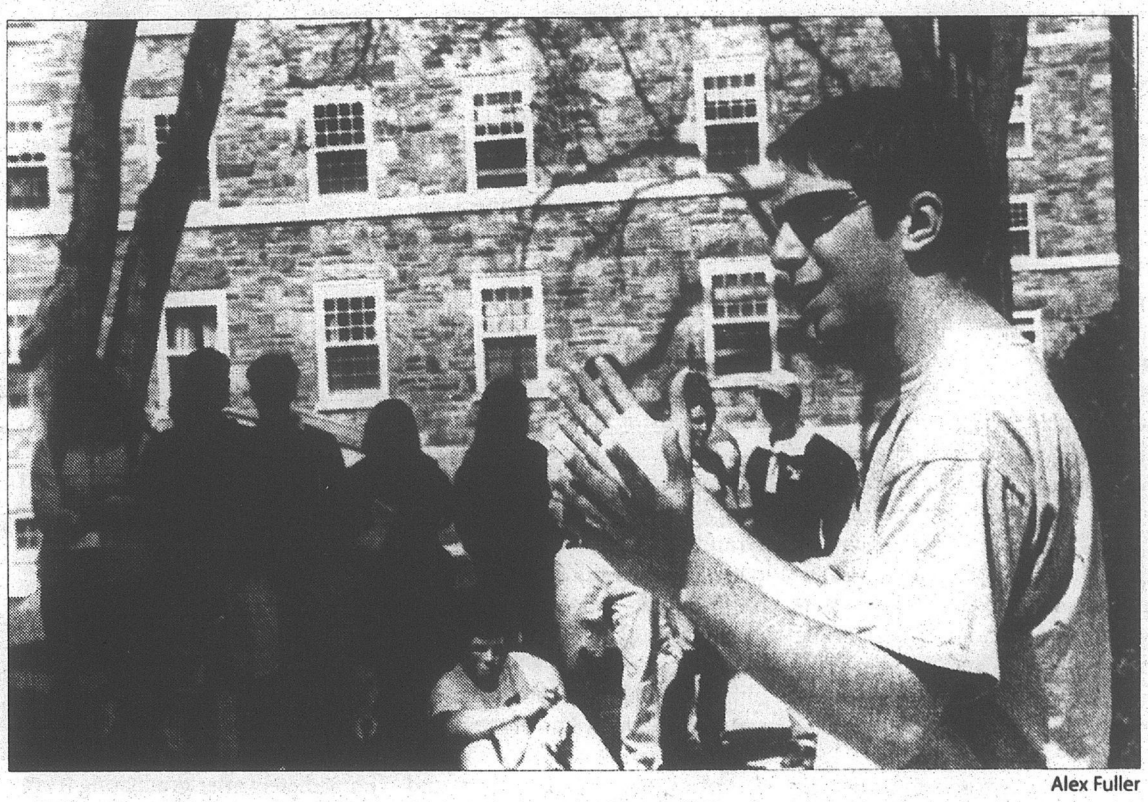

Alex Fuller

Adam Werbach, the 24 year old president of the Sierra Club, spoke in front of Mead Chapel on Monday.

Youthful Sierra Club president urges participation

By Sherry Schwarz
Features Editor

It was evident that Adam Werbach would not deliver a traditional lecture, on the eve of Earth Day, when he moved his noon-time speech from inside Mead Chapel outside, into the sunshine. Perhaps this should not be surprising, though, as Werbach, who at 24-years-old is the youngest president ever of the Sierra Club, is not a conventional person.

Environmental Quality (EQ) "[felt] Werbach's lecture would be a good way to make people start thinking about environmental issues," said Dave Sterrett '99. "He is definitely a well-known personality, and a very successful youth." EQ was able to bring Werbach to the college, with the help of his assistant, Middlebury graduate Thomas Elliott '96.

"I am eternally in Middlebury's debt for producing someone like Elliott," said Werbach. "He does the work of ten people, and is one of the smartest strategic thinkers I have ever met."

Donning black sunglasses, a gray tee-shirt, khaki jeans, and sneakers, Werbach opened his remarks to the crowd gathered on the steps of the Chapel, with a simple question: "So, who knows what day it is?" The inevitable "Monday" rolled off of one student's tongue, before Werbach stated that it was John Muir's birthday, the man who founded the Sierra Club in 1892. After briefly talking about Muir's impetus for creating the Club — a hike through Yosemite, during which Muir realized the park was threatened — Werbach went on to relate a lively story about his own initiation into environmental activism at the age of eight. His assignment was to take a save-the-national-parks petition to his second-grade class and have each person sign it. "They were all psyched," Werbach said. "Even though we were only eight-years-old, we felt like we could do something. We felt like we could make a difference, and that was important."

Empowering America's youth and encouraging them to assume leadership roles was a primary focus of Werbach's talk. "The average age of a Sierra Club member is 44-years-old," he said. "We need younger people to get involved." Werbach himself launched the Sierra Student Coalition during his years in high school and college, signing up some 30,000 members. In his sophomore year at Brown University, Werbach was elected to the Sierra Club board, undertaking his current position three years later.

An integral part of Werbach's presidency lies with promoting environmental awareness, particularly among the nation's youth. Werbach

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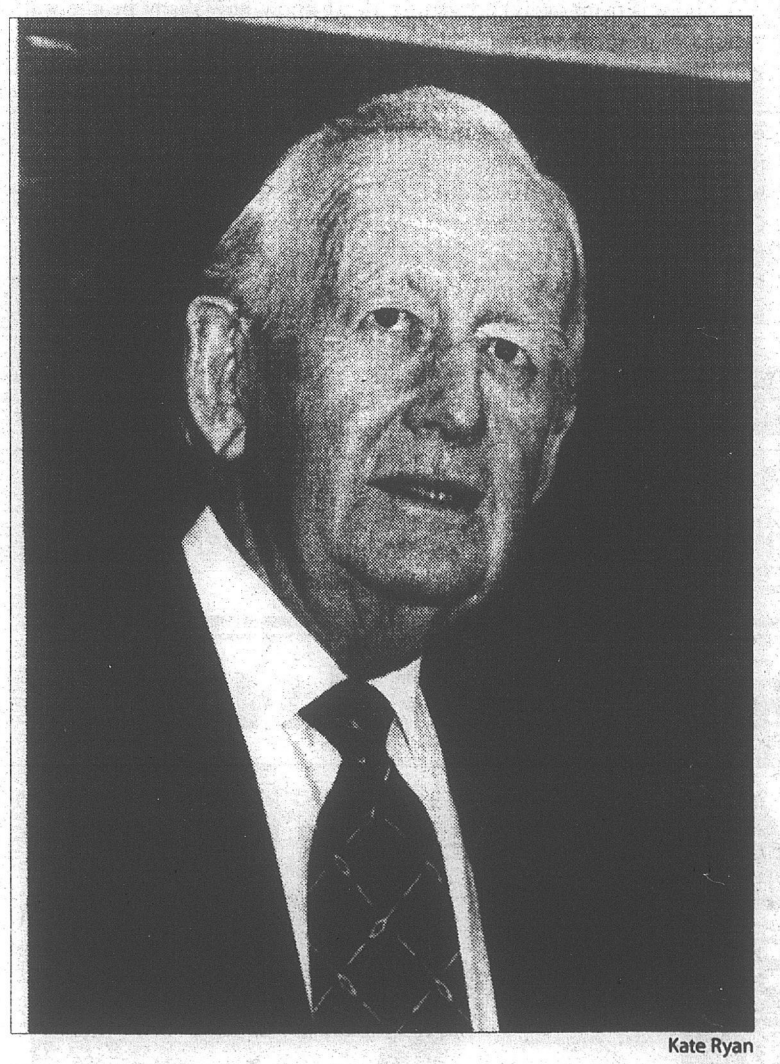

Kate Ryan

Ambassador John McDonald spoke on building peace at the ISO symposium.

McDonald examines intrastate conflicts

By Emily Manning
In Depth Editor

Last weekend foreign service experts from around the world gathered for Middlebury's third annual International Students Organization (ISO) Symposium to discuss future patterns of conflict and division in a program entitled "War and Peace in the Third Millennium." The weekend came to a close on Saturday with a keynote address given by Ambassador John McDonald, chairman and co-founder of the Institute for MultiTrack Diplomacy in Washington, D.C.

In his address, "The Role of the Citizen Diplomat in the 21st Century," McDonald discussed his experiences building peace in countries with intrastate conflicts and elaborated on why he felt the world needed to adopt Track II Diplomacy, a personal, individualistic approach to improving the state of these countries.

"The world today is not designed to cope with conflicts," commented the ambassador. According to McDonald, between 1989 and 1993 there were 82 international conflicts, only three of which were declared wars. He said that the other 79 conflicts were ignored because the incidents were all intrastate. "National sovereignty reigns supreme," he explained. "We can't cross that border and help unless we're invited in to help."

In a few cases the UN has interceded with assistance under Chapter Seven of its charter, which allows them to interfere with the approval of the Security Council. "But those are the rarities. Those other conflicts are off the front pages and CNN, but they are practical and they are there," commented McDonald.

McDonald advocated the use of Track II Diplomacy, which involves peace-makers working directly with the citizens of the disunited country. For the past 40 years, the US has used Track I Diplomacy, which primarily concerns simple government to government interaction. According to McDonald, Track I is "rigid, unimaginative and does not get to the heart of the problem."

"Track I is no longer the power player that it once was because governments will not invite other governments to help because leaders fear they will lose power," he explained. "The world is shifting. It's beginning to give up on nation-states." McDonald stated this alteration has created more opportunities for institutions to enter countries, build peace, and interact with the citizens.

Concerning his success with Track II Diplomacy, McDonald's Institute for MultiTrack Diplomacy is often invited into countries to al-

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Annual non-profit fair presents alternative career opportunities

By Gwynn Guilford
News Assistant

The Career Services Office (CSO) held its second Annual Non-Profit Organizations Fair last Monday. The fair, which was held on the McCullough floor, was prefaced by the "Doing Well by Doing Good" panel discussion and reception, held on Sunday evening.

The two events focused on giving students a chance to examine alternative career options to graduate school and business-oriented occupations. According to the CSO homepage, the goals of the panel discussion and fair were "to inform Middlebury students how to become involved with volunteer groups and non-profit organizations while they are undergraduates, to inform students how to pursue career interests with such organizations, and to promote campus awareness of volunteer services and non-profit organizations."

Both events were organized by Janine Hetherington '95, the assistant director of recruiting for CSO. Hetherington explained that because most non-profit groups don't recruit students due to their low budgets and inability to predict hiring needs, students rarely get adequate exposure to the opportunity of working for non-profit groups. "The fair is a way to connect students and non-profit groups. Last year's was a good success and students were really interested. This year's is bigger and better, plus there was the reception, which helped get alums more involved with students."

The career conversation and reception, which took place in the Chateau Grand Salon, featured a panel of four Middlebury alumni who currently work for non-profit organizations. An audience of more than 50 students, alumni, and faculty gathered to listen and ask questions of the members the panel — David Cory, David Milner, Dorothy Hart, and Karen Taylor.

The discussion commenced with introductions from each of the panel members, during which they explained their prior experience with non-profit work and their motivation for this involvement. Milner, who conceived and currently works for his own non-profit organization, advised "In the non-profit world, a lot of it has to do with passion. I wanted to help inner city kids tap into their own talent to improve the community ... doing something I believed in was the most important." Milner then explained how, by receiving the Samuel Huntington Public Service Award (a grant of $10,000) he was able to begin an organization out of his own home in Washington, DC immediately after graduating from Middlebury with an economics major and physics minor. He mentioned that understanding the job situation following graduation was the realization of "this is it" and that "a lot of friends who went to law school realized that 'this is it' with a lot of debt."

"In the non-profit world, a lot of it has to do with passion. I wanted to help inner city kids tap into their own talent to improve the community..." said David Milner.

One of the immediate questions from the audience was the diversity of work available in the non-profit field. Speaking from the perspective of the environmental field, Taylor, who works for the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps, said, "This [field] has a lot of different jobs and needs ... there is a lot of demand because these jobs are difficult to do and are getting more difficult."

Hart added that the component of difficulty in working for non-profit organizations stemmed from their tight budgets, which often places a large amount of responsibility on employees. "There is never enough money; almost everything I've done is not in my job description. I've followed my instincts and done a huge range of fascinating things." Another factor in the recent difficulty for non-profit groups is fund raising. "The public is not taking to mass marketing of non-profits as much, due to the large proliferation of non-profit group competition," said Taylor. She explained that whereas groups in the past expected a ten percent response to solicitations, now they hope for a one percent response.

Another point of discussion was the importance of having responsive and attentive boards of directors at the head of each organization. Milner commented, "The key is to get a good chair; a visionary is essential. [My group's] board is headed by a 70-year-old woman who is powerful in presence and doesn't take any crap." Other alumni from the audience volunteered the advice that the board set the "culture and direction" of the group, and that there was "a fine line between providing enough structure for things to get done and having enough fluidity so that people are still excited."

The question of lifestyle for non-profit organization employees was also raised. Cathy Caldwell, a director of rural Vermont-based Project Harmony, explained, "Computers, fax machines, and e-mail, [allow groups to] do so much more ... we are at a disadvantage because we don't do the power lunches. Really, it comes down to a lifestyle decision."

The fair itself, which was held in conjunction with Volunteer Services Week and Earth Week, featured booths from over 35 organizations. Non-profit groups dealing with the environment, social service, maintenance of urban areas, education, and community building all attended. Groups like Earthwatch, ECOLOGIA, The Nature Conservancy, Student Conservation Association, Vermont Youth Conservation Corps, Vermont Land Trust, and Sierra Club represented the environmental facet of non-profit work at the fair. Community and social service-oriented organizations such as Addison County Community Action Group, Outright Vermont, Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, and Eckerd Family Youth Alternatives made appearances, as well. Non-profit organizations that are famous on the national and international levels such as the Peace Corps, Habitat for Humanity, and AmeriCorps also attended.

Students milled around McCullough visiting booths where they could examine literature about the given organization and receive additional information. Commented Bijay Raut '99, "I like the idea of non-profit [work] because these types of organizations are really involved with altruistic and philanthropic work and there are many people around interested in contributing to developing, rather than business."

Several non-profit organizations also provided students with information about careers, internships, and other job-related information. John Rosenthal '72, member of the board of directors for the Nature Conservancy explained "Non-profit [groups] cannot afford to send representatives around the country looking for employers and this is certainly a place people interested [who would] enjoy this type of work."

Although many students who attended did not actually work out their future careers, many gained a more complete and accurate comprehension of the opportunities available in non-profit work. "I don't know how many people will get a job straight away, but the [fair offers] exposure and awareness. This has been a great networking experience for me, too. Knowing [certain organizations] are out there is encouraging, " said Environmental Coordinator Jen Hazen '95.

Student Government Association Announcements

Presidential and Vice Presidential elections are on Friday, April 25th from 8a.m. to 6 p.m. in McCullough.

Committee appointments are coming up soon. Forms will be on the counter in the SGA office.

Alumni Lecture Series:
Bob Corolla on April 28th at 7:30 in Mitchell-Green Lounge
Patrick Wells on May 1st at 7:30 in Mitchell-Green Lounge

Last week's issue mistakingly stated that the SGA President's salary is $160 per week. It is $160 per month.

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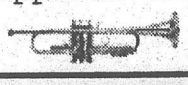

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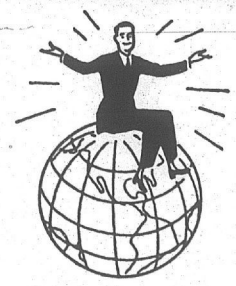

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President urges society to look beyond ailments

(continued from page 1)

encourages people to recognize the achievements of the environmental movement, such as the Endangered Species Act, which has saved alligators, Grizzly Bears, and Hump-Back Wales, to name a few.

"A lot of environmentalists focus on all of the problems that face America. See, [to them] we're one of those problems," said Werbach. "We're Generation X. We're told that we're apathetic, we're disengaged, we don't care — it's ridiculous. Young people today are more involved in local community service than any time in the last 30 years." Werbach said that when young people are cynical and inactive it is a choice they make, and it is often based on the problems they see around them: 90 percent of America's ancient forests are gone, one quarter of kids in America live within a bike-ride of a toxic waste dump, the rate of asthma has doubled, and as Werbach humorously noted, "Rush Limbaugh is now the leading seller of ties in America."

While Werbach, having grown up with smog alerts in Tarzana, L.A. would be the first to state that these statistics are disturbing, he emphasized the importance of looking beyond society's ailments. Instead, Werbach said, "We have a responsibility to share local environmental success stories nationally." One example he cited was the Cuyahoga River in Ohio. Toxic waste had become so abundant in the Cuyahoga by 1969 that the river lit on fire and burned for days. "Can you imagine a river lighting on fire?" asked Werbach. "It was almost Biblical." Four days ago, Werbach visited the river and noted that people are now able to fish and swim in it. "Economic development is coming back along that river — the river that lit on fire and burned is coming back because of the environmental movement, because people worked together," he said. There are also two new clean air standards that the Environmental Protection Agency has just introduced to help protect the air quality, specifically for children: improving their health was the primary emphasis of this year's Earth Day. "Kids suffer disproportionally from environmental hazards," said Werbach. "We need to make sure that they have the right to grow up in a safe environment, that they can ride their bikes any day."

As Werbach drew his speech to a close, more than an hour after it had commenced, he reminded all who were present to get involved with a religious group, a children's organization, or an environmental movement. "Our job is to hold everyone accountable," said Werbach. "You don't have that much time, you don't have that much money. You better fight for something that has a track record. Fight for something that you think can actually make a difference." On the eve of Earth Day, Werbach affirmed, "We need to bring back the wildness, and wildness is not just wilderness; it is something inside of us."

Just don't show them Proctor at noon!

Anthony D'Avella

Andy Wall '99 and Pete Makrauer '99, *introduce a group of prospective students to their room in Hepburn. Prospectives visited the college the last two weeks and will continue to until the May 1st response deadline.*

McDonald examines intrastate conflicts

(continued from page 1)

leviate conflicts. "We are non-threatening and show countries that we want no power. We have no hidden agenda. How many Americans have no hidden agenda?" he said. "All we do is help individual citizens work to resolve their differences." McDonald said that far too many countries involved in helping to alleviate intrastate conflicts are primarily there for selfish reasons. The countries in question, he added, are always skeptical.

McDonald discussed his success with Track II Diplomacy. His institute's first project concerned Cyprus, a small island in the Mediterranean Sea. In the early 1960s the island was given independence by the British Empire and experienced ethnic conflict and ethnic cleansing between the Turkish Muslims and the Greek Christians. In 1964, the UN intervened and divided the country, giving the Turkish Muslims the North and the Greek Christians the South. "For the past 30 years, that country has been frozen in time. You can't cross the line. You can't even send a letter. A whole generation has grown up hating the other side without ever having met them," explained McDonald.

For the past five years, the institution has assisted Cyprus by increasing the interaction between the two sides through holding open meetings.

The peace builders started by holding separate conferences for each group to allow the citizens to become more comfortable with the concept of communicating with the people they had spent 30 years hating. At first, the interest was minimal yet encouraging. 35 people arrived at the first meeting. It took 15 months for the two sides to agree to meet together. This summer, the institute will be holding a summer camp for teenagers and has received 500 applications for the 40 openings. The institute has other projects in Israel, Palestine, Liberia and Tanzania.

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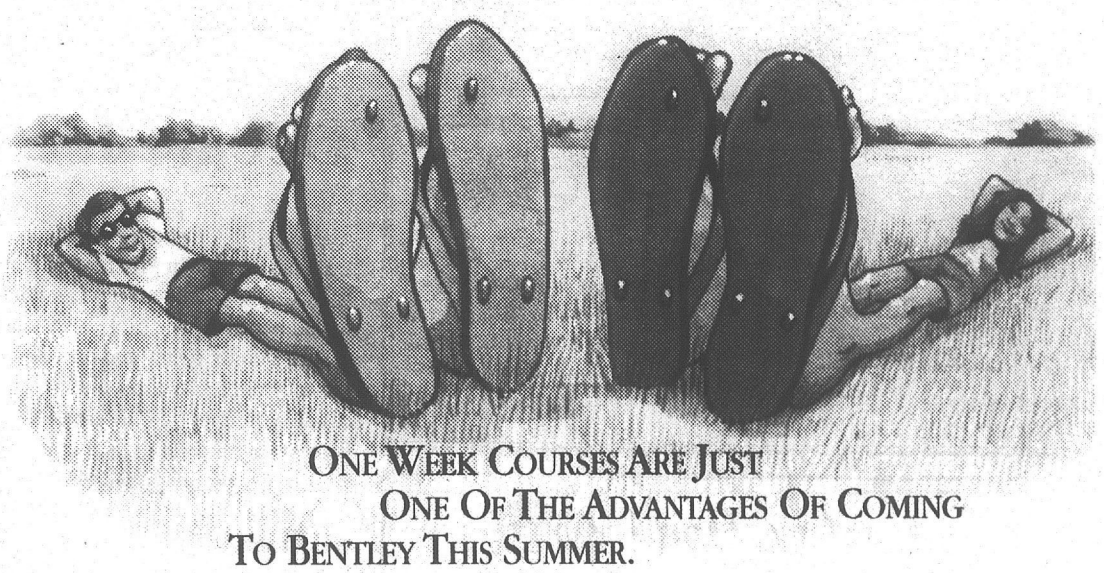

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Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates outline platforms

AJ Poor
Presidential candidate

There are several issues that I would like to address in discussing my candidacy for president. As members of the Middlebury College community, many people have thought about what they see for the future. A lot of good ideas have been generated and introduced, and I would embrace an opportunity to effect some of the changes students would like to see.

I come into this election with several ideas I think would benefit and pull together this community. Among these issues are improvement in class unity and thus community, a more flexible exam schedule, and a reassessment and improvement in dining. Other things that I touched on were to implement the ideas that came out of last year's report on the status of the sexual assault policy that our campus blatantly lacks. I have circulated these ideas and gotten helpful feedback.

This is only half of the job of the SGA. While my ideas are important and prominent concerns of the student body, I alone could not assume to know the concerns of every student on campus. During this campaign, I have been able to learn what else is concerning students. There have been ideas that I did not address originally that I have heard. These ideas have merit and need attention. One concern that I had not thought of is parking on campus; another issue that I had touched on only lightly originally is the Commons System. Learning that these issues are on the minds of people has allowed me to incorporate them into what I advocate. This is the nature of effective representation.

Above all else, I am running for SGA president because I love Middlebury. I am willing to do whatever is necessary to better this campus. I have a lot of ideas that I could effectively lead the school to address. I will also be able to confront and act on issues that arise in the future. As president, I would serve as a true student representative in both the forums of student/SGA relations as well as student/administration & faculty relations. I am dedicated to doing this job well.

Bryan Stratton
Presidential candidate

The Student Government Association does not accurately represent the student body. This is not what we call in the print media a "news flash." Nine out of ten students polled by me over the weekend were unable to answer the questions, "What has the SGA done for you personally?" and "How much do you know about the SGA?"

Does this disturb anyone but me? The SGA, like it or not, is the loudest voice the students have to the administration, and the vast majority of the student body apparently has no idea what is being said.

The SGA needs better communication with the students, and I don't believe it's necessarily the students' responsibility to go to the SGA; if the SGA wants to truly be representative, they should actively be going out and soliciting opinions from the campus. I'm currently working on a proposal, suggested to me over e-mail, where two SGA meetings would be held in a "town meeting" fashion, one at the beginning of the semester and one at the end. Concerns could be voiced and a popular vote could be taken from a much larger cross-section of the student body. This would also eliminate the accusations that the SGA is an administrative puppet; it would function throughout the year to work towards defined goals and not pick from a list of compromises offered by Old Chapel.

I don't want to abolish the SGA, but I know that you can be active without being political. If the Gordian knot of bureaucratic red tape hinders concerned students from becoming involved in the SGA, then I'll cut through it. How? Oh, I have my ways. If there's one thing I've found, it's that if you make a big enough spectacle of yourself, eventually people won't be able to ignore you anymore.

People are talking about the SGA again this year.

Alyson Cucci
Vice Presidential candidate

I am running for Vice President because I value the opportunity the SGA provides for students to be involved in decisions made by and for the college. In order for the system to be effective, though, it must improve.

The SGA has a responsibility to represent student voice to the administration. To do this, members of the SGA must interact closely with the rest of the student body; this has not been done well in the past. In the future, information presented to the general assembly and committees must reach students not active in SGA, and representatives must be dedicated to communicating regularly with their constituents.

Facilities planning will be the most important issue the college faces next year. In order that the administration and the trustees make decisions that are in the best interest of the college as a whole, it is imperative that they consider students' unique insight into the matters at hand.

The SGA must also be committed to overseeing the progress of the Career Services Office, which is now under new leadership. Career Services is essential to the future of Middlebury students and its resources must reflect the diversity of students' needs.

A link between the commons and SGA would help both organizations. An SGA representative from each Commons Council could provide the commons with regular contact with a large group of students. This could help them find their place on campus. This would also help the SGA; Commons Representatives would meet with a group of their constituents each week at Commons Council meetings. This is a perfect forum for discussing what SGA is doing and what it should do in the future.

Finally, there is an adversarial relationship between security and students. The idea that our security policy encourages off-campus parties and greater consumption of hard alcohol is disconcerting and I will work toward finding a solution.

I have chosen to make SGA my priority next year and will have the time, experience and energy to do the job well. I would not be running for the position if I did not have absolute confidence that I am the best candidate.

Christopher Vaughn
Vice Presidential candidate

My name is Christopher Vaughan, and I am running for the vice presidential position of the Student Government Association. If I emerge victorious from this weeks' election, I am confident that I will fulfill all of the expectations of my position, and achieve most of my goals for next year.

One of my goals for next year is to work with the students, and administration, toward the maintenance of class unity among first-year students.

The first-year integration process will provide for new relationships with older students, but the scattering of our newest members will injure class unity. I understand that many dorms require renovation, but first-years should have a sense of unity, especially in the beginning of the year. I wonder how I would feel at my first class reunion, if I was not familiar with many people in my class, and if it was due to the lack of centralized housing.

I also would like to challenge the idea of centralized dining. As we all know, the weather at Middlebury can be long and depressing.

One dining hall would prove a monotonous aspect of our daily schedules. I like having the option of dining in different atmospheres. Furthermore, one dining hall would pose a threat to our environment; Inter-campus driving would occur more often under this plan.

I like the declining balance plan for our meals. This plan allows our schedules to be more flexible. If a student misses a meal he already possesses a certain credit at the Crest Room or Gamut Room.

Other ideas I would like to look into are the institution of Commons computer rooms, a convenience store on campus that is open later than Baba's, and the further development of positive relations between the Social Houses and Commons.

I have a great deal of experience, a strong work ethic, and the determination to govern for the students.

If anyone has any questions do not hesitate to call.

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Debate focuses on SGA effectiveness

(continued from page 1)

make the SGA more effective would be to have a time in Proctor when all the people involved in the SGA would be there," she said.

The alcohol policy and the role of security were also top on all of the candidates' lists of concerns. "The problem with security is that it is a very large, proportionally, security force that is dealing with what's not really a problem," said Poor. "Security concentrates on the social houses during the weekends. I don't think that that's where the problem drinking is happening. Security needs to think about the most effective way to protect our safety."

Stratton favored a decreased security force. "I would like to see security either downsized or given something to do," said Stratton. "I'd also like to see them be more reactive to student complaints."

Vice-Presidential Candidates

Vice-Presidential Candidates discussed their positions on the alcohol policy as well as substance free housing.

"I think there is a need to respond to the increased interest in substance free housing," said Cucci. "I have heard a lot of dissatisfaction with the alcohol policy. Some say it leads to an increasing amount of binge drinking and a lot more use of hard alcohol."

Vaughan also expressed concern about the effectiveness of the college's alcohol policy. "I think substance free housing is an excellent idea," said Vaughan. "I think that maybe the freshman alcohol policy should be a little bit different [than that of upper-classmen]. I also believe that we are not in high school and that a lot of students should make their own decisions about how they feel about drinking or not drinking."

The commons system was also heavily discussed by both candidates.

As the system is currently undergoing its five year review process, candidates were asked what role they felt the commons would play next fall. "I believe the commons are important," responded Vaughan. "One thing the commons need to get across is that they are not in competition with the social houses. The social houses and the commons should get along. They should cosponsor events. They are a great way to meet people you would not know otherwise."

Cucci saw a lot of room for improvement in the commons system.

"... they have quite a lot of opportunity and would be even more effective when each commons establishes an identity, said Cucci."

Cucci and Vaughan discussed the need for communication between the SGA and its constituents.

Vaughan cited his involvement with many different activities on campus as a means of reaching more members of the student body. "I believe that the SGA does an excellent job dealing with the administration and faculty," said Vaughan. "We need to do a much better job speaking to the students and getting their input."

SGA passes proposals to facilities plan

By Josh Irwin
News Editor

Sunday's SGA meeting commenced with two presentations of projects designed for inclusion in the Draft Facilities Plan. To open the session, Andy Smith '97 and Corinna Luyken '00 unveiled their proposal for an Interfaith Center. Created from the contributions of representatives from nearly all religious organizations on campus, the proposal lists recognizing "the growing diversity of faiths on campus" and honoring and supporting "the individual needs of all college religious groups" among its mission and goals.

The pair explained that the new space would serve as an area for "spiritual study, contemplation, meditation and prayer," as well as lectures and discussion, and would include office space for religious groups and the college chaplain.

In response to a question from the assembly, Smith and Luyken emphasized that their intention was not to take over residential space for their project, nor did they believe the college would allow them to do so. The assembly voted in support of the proposal, 32-2-3.

Next Hannah Lewis '97, presented plans currently under way for an environmental center to replace Weybridge House and serve as a hub for the Environmental Studies major, which she identified as the second largest on campus. The new structure, Lewis noted, would not only create a center for campus environmental interests and serve as "a model for ecological design in Vermont," but would also provide education about environmental issues and "foster community interaction."

The proposal has been evolving throughout the semester, Lewis said, and, agreeing that residential space is a high priority for the administration, she pointed out that the new center would include between 15 and 30 beds. In response to questions about the necessity of such a building, Lewis emphasized that environmental education is one of the peak areas targeted for excellence by President McCardell. By a vote of 26-10-3, the SGA supported the proposal.

The long contemplated extension of the walkway from Voter to the mailroom door will finally be undertaken this summer, after the assembly approved a bill....

Next, representatives from the Honor Code Review Committee asked the SGA for a vote of support for their recommendation that the student body "reaffirm its support" for the honor code. The purpose of the review, said Judicial Committee Co-chair Vanessa Tribastone '97, who also served on the review committee, is to bring the honor code back to the forefront. The SGA's unanimous vote of approval will eventually be presented to the faculty, which will be charged with ratifying a few minor changes to the policy.

The assembly next considered several bills from representatives. First, C.J. Diamond '99 proposed that the vote count in SGA's presidential and vice presidential elections be made public. Diamond accepted a friendly amendment asking that the policy be extended to elections for dorm and class representatives to the SGA. Because this year's four candidates were ratified under different guidelines at a previous meeting, the SGA Oversight Committee will confidentially ask their permission to publicize the results. Without objections, the bill will take effect in the current election. The proposal drew a 35-1 vote of approval.

Chris Vaughan '98, presented his bill to create two or three speed ditches in C lot drive, citing the excessive speed drivers indulge in along the road. The assembly gave unanimous approval and Vaughan promised to investigate similar ditches for the approach to A lot.

The long-contemplated extension of the walkway from Voter to the mailroom door in McCullough will finally be undertaken this summer, after the assembly approved a bill authored by John Felton '99. Felton told the SGA that he had spoken with "all the right people" including Dave Ginevan, college treasurer, and that sufficient funds for the project were in place.

Finally, the group tabled a bill by Graham Balch '97 to measure per dorm consumption of electricity and water and return part of the money saved through conservation efforts via PIN bills. Balch proposed that a benchmark be established for each dorm, possibly based on the average of the three previous years' rate of use, and that one half of the savings below that level be rebated. The bill will be handled in a later meeting.

Cox speaks on "Progress and Peril"

Alex Fuller

Robbie Cox, Vice President of the Sierra Club, ***spoke in Mead Chapel Tuesday night as part of Earth Day festivities.***

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Editorial

A little revolution

This SGA election has generated greater interest than any in recent memory, partly because it's been so hard to ignore one candidate's aggressive campaign: Bryan Stratton has told the world how ineffective, inaccessible and inefficient the SGA is. A.J. Poor, on the other hand, believes in the SGA, pointing to their less-noticed but certainly significant accomplishments, and emphasizing the need to improve their image, rather than doing any real overhaul.

A wise politician once said that all any candidate needs to do in order to get elected is to portray him or herself as an agent of change. But how do you sell change in the institution when you yourself stand for the institution? As much as she may resist representing the status quo, Poor can't help it. Her ideas and approaches — even her language — echo all the platforms of past years. She's proven her motivation and commitment; she's capable and expert in the way student government works, or has worked so far. But Stratton has upstaged her.

From his initial (unreasonable) suggestion to disband the SGA, Stratton's platform has evolved to include some issues that feel reassuringly serious and legitimate: safety concerns, first-year dorms, bureaucracy reduction, etc.. These ideas are comparable to Poor's, and are practical and commendable suggestions, all of them. The difference is in ideology, which may sound like a strange word to apply to student politics. But Stratton's ideas are huge, and genuinely revolutionary. He can't offer Poor's experience and knowledge; he doesn't know yet which of his plans are practicable. But Poor, who has all the right skills and background, lacks Stratton's strong ideological motivation. One candidate with big ideas and no sense of the practical — one with immense knowledge of the practical, and no real big ideas.

For these reasons, *The Campus* endorses Bryan Stratton for SGA president. Here are some caveats: in order to demonstrate that his presidential ability is on par with his rhetorical skills, he will need to discover some diplomacy and restraint. Students and student groups of all kinds deserve his respect and attention; the president's job requires patience and tolerance for everyone, including those who don't agree with him.

We should also bear in mind that we're not electing a dictator. The system is structured to combine that talents and ideas of many — the V.P., for example. As in the presidential race, both Cucci and Vaughan have a great deal to recommend them. But if we choose a president like Stratton, we should balance him out with the V.P. candidate with the greatest proven experience and competence: Alyson Cucci, who is both flexible and approachable, and will work well with either presidential candidate.

The SGA deserves more credit than it gets, but that doesn't mean it couldn't do with a little revolution.

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WITH WINTER HIBERNATION FINALLY OVER, MIDDLEBURY STUDENTS STEP OUTSIDE TO TEST THE SPRING CLIMATE...
DID WE MISS MUD-SEASON?
I THINK SO.
SUNGLASSES ARE USED TO SHIELD THEIR EYES WHILE "SCOPING OUT" A SUITABLE MATE
SINICK 4.22.97
THIS IS MORE EASILY DETERMINED AFTER SHEDDING THEIR PATAGONIA SKINS
SOME, HOWEVER, SHED MORE THAN OTHERS.
WOO HOO!

Letters to the Editor

President McCardell asks students to vote Friday

To the Editor of the Middlebury Campus:

Very seldom do I think it either necessary or proper for me to claim space in your Letters column. This week, however, I am compelled to write this brief letter, and to make a simple point.

Elections of SGA officers are about to take place. Over the years, I have come ever more fully to understand, and appreciate, the value of a close and respectful working relationship between SGA and the administration. To say this is emphatically not to say that a good gauge of the health of that relationship lies in the degree to which we agree on the issues before us. At the same time, it is highly misleading to assume that an absence of conflict is evidence that SGA is not doing its job.

What matters most is that the officers chosen by students to represent them have, in addition to the respect of the administration, the confidence of the student body. Both respect and confidence are enhanced if the candidates elected have the mandate that a large turnout of student voters automatically ensures. Thus, I write to urge students, whatever your choice of candidates or platforms may be, to take the time to cast your votes. The officers of SGA, and their executive committee, have a very challenging task in bringing a student voice to campus deliberations upon the issues of the moment. That voice is heard, and it is taken seriously. Your vote raises and sharpens that voice's credibility. As we address the substantial issues posed by growth in the years ahead, I look forward to a continued, close working relationship with SGA, which will be the primary vehicle for expressing student opinion. Your choice of officers, therefore, matters a great deal to the future of Middlebury College.

John McCardell is the President of Middlebury College.

Student derides previous commentaries on drinking

Student. Synonyms for this word include pupil, collegian, cadet and trainee. Not included as synonyms are opportunist, whiner and fool. This letter is in response to the piece written in last week's Campus by Sarah Hall '99.I have read many outrageous letters to the editor during my years at Middlebury. Some of these letters angered me while I found others amusing. However I never thought that someone would have the unbelievable tastelessness and utter lack of dignity to utilize the death of a fellow student to advance the cause of underage drinking on campus. If this was not enough, Ms. Hall then proceeded to suggest that somehow the death our classmate was the fault of the administration and/or Security.

Protecting people from their own stupidity is a tough job. Until more students learn to drink responsibly, Security deserves a break.

Instead of seeing the untimely death of a student as a tragedy in itself, Ms. Hall seems to see this event as "a blow... to open many people's eyes to the idiocy of this campus's alcohol policies and they manner in which they are enforced." She then concludes the following paragraph with a request that we "put things in perspective." A student dies and she is complaining that security won't let her drink in peace and "feel like an adult for a change." Hmmm. It appears by Ms. Hall's use of the word "perspective" that she should lay off her thesaurus for a while and spend some quality time with her dictionary.

Though I am still unsure what exactly inspired Ms. Hall to write her letter, she cites a letter written in the previous issue of the Campus by Ted Adler '99.5 and Ben Levey '99.5. While the logic of Mr. Adler and Mr. Levey was a little easier to follow, one sentence seemed to stick in my mind as particularly... questionable. "The goal of the College should be to provide as safe a drinking scene as possible," they assert. Notice that they don't say "one of the goals..." or "it should be a goal..." Nope. "The goal of the College should be to provide as safe a drinking scene as possible." Gee, I always thought the goal of the College was to educate and prepare students. My question is if "the goal of the College should be to provide as safe a drinking scene as possible," then why go to college at all? The money spent paying for four years at Middlebury could be used to buy enough alcohol to keep the party going well after the liver calls it quits. Personally, I think crack will get you where you are going a lot faster, but with $120,000 you can afford to be picky. Besides, crack is a little too "sketchy" to be cool.

As a member of Student Security and therefore by extension a "puppet of the administration" (Adler/Levey) and an "enemy" (Hall), I feel the need to touch on. certain other issues addressed in the aforementioned

(see Student, page 10)

Thompson and Areshidze discuss merits of SGA candidates

Heather B. Thompson '97
Irakly Areshidze '00

Two of us, a freshman and a senior, a conservative and a liberal, a man and a woman, an SGA member and someone who has never worked for student government in any capacity, two people who seldom agree about the role of the Student Government Association, urge you to get out and vote on April 25 ... but to vote carefully. We urge you to vote AJ Poor for President and Alyson Cucci for Vice President of the SGA. The most obvious reason for supporting these two candidates is their commitment throughout their careers at Middlebury to improving student life and becoming leaders in our community. Based solely on their merit, these two candidates deserve our support.

Alyson Cucci is the most qualified choice for Vice President. She is the only candidate who has the experience necessary to chair the Community Council (one of the key duties of the Vice President) and the only candidate with the knowledge of Middlebury necessary to represent the students in all levels of activity.

Ms. Cucci currently serves on the Community Council and therefore has a clear understanding of the inner-workings of this most powerful of committees. She also serves on the Oversight Committee of the SGA which is responsible for implementing the bills that the SGA passes — for making sure that they have some impact on our lives as students. This position has required her to work closely with various members of the administration, faculty, staff and student body. This experience will prove invaluable if she is elected Vice President.

One of the cores of Ms. Cucci's campaign is her desire to improve communication between the student body as a whole and the SGA. She envisions the World Wide Web as an integral part of this improved communication in the coming years. While cynicism about the SGA is prominent on campus, Ms. Cucci correctly diagnoses the problem as stemming from the fact that students do not often hear about what is happening in the SGA. She suggests developing a comprehensive web page which would allow students to instantly access information on SGA initiatives, increasing the publicity of office hours held by the SGA President and Vice President, and encouraging General Assembly members to find creative ways to inform their constituents of SGA business.

Ms. Cucci plans to limit her extra-curricular activities next year to serving as Vice President (and chair of Community Council) if she is elected. This extraordinary commitment of time illustrates the level of her dedication to improving student life on campus through the SGA. Her opponent has made no such pledge. Though we are intrigued by his ambition to remain a varsity athlete and become a leader of the student body, it is simply impossible to do everything — and do it well.

Quite simply, Ms. Cucci is the only candidate for Vice President who has shown both past and future commitment to leading next year's SGA and Community Council. She is the only candidate who will continue to improve student life at Middlebury, and her election is essential if we are to see positive changes on campus next year.

On the Presidential side, no thoughtful student could reasonably argue with our decision to endorse AJ Poor for this position. She is the only candidate who has the experience, the desire to lead, and the dynamic platform necessary to be the next President of the SGA. At the same time, her opponent is not only unqualified for this position, but his conduct in this campaign and his complete lack of sensible plans for next year demonstrate that, if elected, he would be an unfortunate, even disastrous, choice for President of the SGA.

By contrast, Ms. Poor served as the Pearsons Hall representative to the SGA General Assembly during her sophomore year, and is currently a member of the SGA Executive Committee as Chair of Appointments. This spring, she has also been serving as the Vice President of the Inter House Council. The experience that she has gained through her work in these positions will enable her to hit the ground running next fall. She already understands the duties of the President and would, therefore, be able to concentrate on issues from the very first SGA meeting.

Ms. Poor is the only candidate who offers a sensible platform for next year. She understands that there is a need to change the role of the Security officers at Middlebury. While the college is required by law to have a citation policy, everyone will agree — deans, students who have many citations and those who have none — that the current system is not working. Not only is it too intrusive and overly rigid, but it also does not help reduce underage drinking. The role of security on campus should be to make it a healthier, safer environment, not merely to issue parking tickets and social citations. Ms. Poor is committed to reforming the role of Security and to strengthening the relationship between Security officers and the student body.

There is also a clear need to create dining options for Middlebury students. Several weeks ago, Ted Mayer and Zac Stillerman '97 outlined various options for future meal plans, including a declining balance plan and an optional number of meals per week plan. It is essential that the these various plans are thoroughly discussed next year among the student body so that whatever changes are proposed reflect the desires of the students. Ms. Poor is the candidate committed to further exploring these options and leading a discussion on the future of our meal plan. Her experience in working on the SGA and with administrators and staff in the past will be useful to her success in this endeavor.

Furthermore, Middlebury is currently engaged in the review of the Commons System. While the Commons have been successful in many regards, there is much that needs to be done to improve their effectiveness and make them an integral part of the social life at Middlebury. With so much money at stake, students should be very interested in ensuring that the Commons System (or whatever structure might be proposed to replace it) be as integral as possible in the lives of students. Ms. Poor is the best candidate to lead us in this discussion.

Putting all of these qualifications aside, the fact that Ms. Poor's opponent is completely unqualified for the job he is seeking further strengthens her candidacy. Bryan Stratton is advocating a revolution, however, he is short on detail. He is engaged in a demagogic rhetorical campaign which claims that there

(see Columnists, page 9)

Hazen examines report distribution and paper waste

Jennifer Hazen

I write this essay on a beautiful Earth Day, from my desk in the Service Building. But, even from here in my windowless office, I can see a nasty cloud brewing. Hopefully it will bring positive change to this campus.

An unfortunate coincidence occurred this Earth Day. Today all employees of Middlebury College received a copy of the Report of the Task Force on the Status of Women at Middlebury College. So why is it so unfortunate that we received this pertinent, well written, and very informative document? Because people are talking about how "wasteful" it was to send each and every employee 25 pages in a clean bleached-white envelope on Earth Day only to have them put it in the Recycling Bin if we are lucky or throw it away if we are not so lucky.

...this document has unwillingly become the poster-child for the anti-paper cause on campus...Here lies the real crime of Earth Day.

As the Environmental Coordinator, I frequently receive complaints about so-called "wastes" such as this. So, before 9 am, I was already pulling my hair out trying to figure out what to do about this situation. Here we have a piece of information that everyone on this campus, and a lot of other people for that matter, have a connection to and should be reading. We fall very short in many areas of concern to women at Middlebury and this report will lead us towards essential improvements. Twenty-one members of the Task Force on the Status of Women invested a year and a half in producing this review and recommendations. It is inexcusable that an unfortunate juxtaposition damage the integrity of their work.

On the other hand, this document has unwillingly become the poster-child for the anti-paper cause on campus. The members of the Task Force worked hard to come up with an environmentally-conscious way to make this information available to everyone, and a better system that does not use paper just does not exist. If the document was sent over electronic mail, a significant portion of the staff who stand to benefit from these recommendations would not have access to it because they do not have access to a computer. This is unacceptable. A bulletin board posting would go unnoticed. What else to do?

So the committee decided on a solution that they thought would address both environmental concerns and the need to distribute this information. Yes, all faculty and staff received a copy, but there was commendably no mass-mailing to students. There will be copies available in the mailroom and on the Web, which have the potential to reach every Middlebury student without sticking one in each box. It was double-sided. It was single-spaced.

And, despite all of these efforts, the Task Force receives comment not on the content of their report, but on the method of distribution!

Here lies the real crime of Earth Day. The pitting of two allied movements against one another on a day of celebration. Divide and conquer. Could an enemy have planned this better? We must step forward and take the opportunity to turn this storm into a rainbow of opportunity.

At one end of the Rainbow lies the Report of the Task Force on the Status of Women. Everyone has access to this report. Students, get out there and grab one, read it, share it, discuss it. Faculty and staff, thanks for recycling, but pull that copy out of the bin and you read it, share it, and discuss it too. Insist that these recommendations be addressed immediately. Help shape Middlebury into a place where women want to study, teach, work, and live. This is not just a women's issue, it is pertinent to all of us.

At the other end of the rainbow lies the infant Reduce Paper Committee. This group of dedicated individuals, called together by Alex Lee '97, will take the reins and make real steps towards a reduction in paper use on campus. We will find alternatives to mass-mailings, poster-blitzes, and obsessive draft-printing, among many other issues. Support these initiatives through your personal behavior and your voice as a member of the College.

I look forward to big steps coming out of the union of these causes. Some things are undoubtedly worth the paper they are printed on. I am headed home to devour my copy of the Report of the Task Force on The Status of Women at Middlebury. I suggest you do the same.

Sophomore ponders nature of memories

Brendan O'Donohoe '99

Opinions. This section of the paper is entitled opinions, so I thought that I would give my opinion on a few things that have happened to me recently.

Back home, the place that we all go to when we are not frolicking around fantasy land Middlebury, I had a friend. She wasn't really a close friend, and when I think about it hard enough, I don't think I would even call her a friend. She was the girl that was a few years older than me that used to come to the Fourth of July back yard cookouts and run after my cat, while I threw tennis balls at her brothers in an effort to decapitate them. She would come over in a pink dress with thick red yarn like stuff holding back her hair. As we grew older and tennis balls turned into baseballs, which were still thrown at each other's heads, her hair became spiked up bangs. Then we both stopped coming to our family gatherings. Friends replaced family, and going to movies or whatever an adolescent does far outweighed hanging out with parents on a Saturday night. Then I went off to college and she got HepatitisB. I came home from college and she was slowly getting better. I went back to college and she got cancer. This time I never came home.

What happens to memories like that?...I think something far more melancholic than the death of a person, is the death of their memory.

I never came home because she died a few nights ago, and I had never seen her when she had cancer, because I was too busy, or too embarrassed to go up to someone I spent my youth looking at out of the corner of my eye. So now she is gone and I really don't have to wonder about being embarrassed at seeing her. I was thinking of going home this weekend, but I just had too much work, and the funeral isn't until Tuesday. To be truly honest, I never really thought that she would die, I don't think that I could face that possibility. My memories of her seem so fleetingly fragile now. I wonder how long I will think of her, before her memory fades away. Perhaps it is wrong to say that it will fade away, but rather will never get remembered. What happens to memories like that? I don't know, but I think something far more melancholic than the death of a person, is the death of their memory.

The next time I go home there will be fewer childhood friends there, I know that there will be one less person not going to cookouts that I also, will not attend. I will come back to Middlebury after my summer, and notice that some people are not here anymore. I will try to remember all of those people who I saw out of the periphery of my vision, and I won't be able to, perhaps because their memories have died.

Students offer endorsements of SGA candidates

Poor's experience will pay off

This Friday, April 25th, we will make our way to the polls to vote for SGA president. The coming year is of great importance to Middlebury. As the college plans to expand we will see new buildings, integrated dormitories, and more students. It is our role as students to voice our opinions for the Middlebury of tomorrow. To do this we need an experienced leader. That leader is Alice J. Poor

AJ has been very active in her three years at Middlebury College. She has been a member of the SGA for the last two years. Her sophomore year she acted as the SGA Representative for Pearsons Dormitory. As representative she voiced student opinions and established strong relationships with administrators and SGA representatives. Currently she is on the SGA executive committee as Secretary of Appointments.

AJ has also been active outside the SGA. She played soccer for two years and was captain of the B team her sophomore year. The same year, she joined the social house Zeta Theta Phi. Now vice president of ZOO and vice president of the Inner House Council, she helps organize campus wide social and charity events.

AJ looks to make Middlebury a safer place. As president she will push for the adoption of a sexual assault policy. She also wants to create class unity by funding class councils to organize class social events. These are only two of the many ideas that she has proposed for the improvement of our school.

So, this Friday as you make your way to the mailroom, think about the future of your college. Vote for the candidate who will best serve Middlebury College. Vote for an experienced leader whose abilities will help make Middlebury a safer, more unified place. Vote for the future. This Friday, vote AJ Poor for SGA president.

Andrew Jessen '97
Matthew Rudnick '97
Josh Shapiro '97
Ryan Harter '98
Jess Perkins '98
Elizabeth Burns '99
Ashley Twyon '99.5
Curt Goldman '00
Willis Logan '00

Stratton shows marks of a good leader

First of all, I'd like to say that I am a computer science major, and a little bit nervous about writing this profile of Bryan Stratton for all of you readers. But when Bryan asked me to do it, I was honored, and agreed, even if I was a bit unsure of my capacities as a writer. So if my style isn't all that great, I hope you'll give me a bit of a break. What I have to say, though, is so much more important than exactly how I say it.

I first met Bryan Stratton at the Addison County Home for the Elderly. Through the little bit of outreach work that I do with senior citizens in the Burlington area, I circulate through various different homes, providing comfort and support for people who are entering their twilight years. These are people just like my own grandparents, only, because of circumstances or dumb luck, they don't have anyone to care for them, to bring them warm meals or clean their rooms.

One day, I was walking my friend, a 92-year old retired fireman named Buck, through the halls of the Home. He was padding along in his blue slippers with the extra-sticky soles, a gift from a nurse, and everything seemed fine. But I had just finished a rough week at Middlebury, lots of papers and even an exam, I think. So I was beat. And as we went down the hallway, I wasn't paying as good attention as I should have to Buck's walking. When we were about fifty feet from his room, Buck tripped over a broom that had fallen in the hall and, because of his glaucoma, he hadn't seen.

From this point on, I can visualize what happened with perfect clarity. Buck's feet, which have that awkward and stiff fragility that sometimes gets into older people's bones, get tangled up on the broom. He starts to fall and, horribly, I am frozen by his side, unable to move or speak. Then, from behind me, a figure darts by and, reaching out, snares Buck in his arms. The figure is pretty skinny, though, and Buck's never been what you would call a small man, and so there is a moment when I'm not sure if they're both going to collapse in a heap on the floor. I get unfrozen then, though, and help put Buck back on his feet.

As you may have guessed, that figure was Bryan Stratton. And immediately after Buck was stabilized, I noticed something about Bryan that still amazes me today: he is one of the oddest looking people I've ever seen. Seriously, though, if it hadn't been for the amazing coincidence that we two Middlebury students were volunteering for the same organization thirty miles from campus, Buck might not have been around today.

Since then, I've come to be one of Bryan's closer friends. His momentary heroism that day at the Home impressed me with some character traits that I've seen again and again in Bryan: kindness, ability for quick action, selflessness, and humanity. All the marks, really, of a good leader.

But anyway, thanks for listening to me, and I'm sure that when you vote on April 25th, you'll remember Bryan Stratton.

Pauls Toutonghi is a member of the Middlebury College Class of 1998.

Vaughn's dedication will achieve results

Christopher Vaughan is running for vice president of the SGA. We know that he is an impressive and determined candidate for that position. We feel that his commitment to this school will enable him to excel as the vice president. Chris has been an outstanding member of the Middlebury community in many different facets over his three years here.

He has always been there for us as a friend and a supporter in everything we have done. It is clear to us that there is no person better suited to be the vice president than Chris. He is concerned about the needs of the student body and is willing to do what it takes to enact legislation that the students want.

We know that he is a responsible person and always carries out what he sets his mind to. We feel that the SGA would be missing out on a great leader if Chris is not elected. He will not stop working to help others until the task is accomplished. We feel that his background and interests will bring what this campus needs to the SGA, dedication. It is hard to say enough about Chris when so many people already know him well, but in summary he is the best person for the position of SGA vice president. We are confident that he will be an exemplary member of the community council and will effectively and efficiently communicate with all members of the Middlebury community.

We are going to vote for him because he is the most qualified of the candidates and so should you.

If you don't know Chris, take our word for it, he should he the vice president of this school.

John Tunney '97
Mike Stineman '98
Vanessa Hynes '98
Casey Dove '98
Dan Nelson '98
Greg Poulos '98
Pooky Rubel '98
Ryan Goldman '98
Adam Pascal '99
Josh Silver '99
Lindsey E. Huenink '99.5
Lindsey Schroth '00

Cucci brings involvement and commitment to post

Who is Alyson Cucci? Alyson Cucci is a junior who for the past three years has taken an active role in shaping the Middlebury Community. As a member of the SGA, as a member of the Residential Life Staff, as a member of a varsity sports team, and as a peer writing tutor, she has contributed to the community.

If elected vice president, Alyson Cucci will bring to the position her strong involvement and dedication to the SGA and to the Middlebury student body. She has been a member of the Oversight Committee since January 1996, and in that role she has helped ensure that bills passed by the SGA are implemented. For example, she is working on implementing the bill passed last month that would provide bus service between Middlebury and the Burlington airport. For the past year, she has been actively involved with the Community Council. She is the only candidate with experience on this committee comprised of students, faculty, staff and administrators who deliberate on all concerns of nonacademic issues and policies.

As a seasoned member of each of the councils, Cucci has a strong sense of what it means to be the vice president. The VP is the Co-Chair of the Community Council, and her time as a member of the council translates to experience. The VP is a liaison between the students, faculty/staff, and administration. Through her involvement with the Oversight Committee, Cucci has established strong ties with many of the various members of the Middlebury community and already has experience in facilitating dialogue between them. Her involvement and experience in the SGA will serve as a great foundation for the VP role.

But involvement and experience are not the only reasons why Alyson Cucci will be a good vice president. She is also committed and dedicated to the job at hand. She has displayed this commitment and dedication by focusing on several issues: building and renovation, the Career Services Office, and the Commons review. She plans to find out student opinion and articulate it to the administration in an effective way. However, her emphasis on these three issues does not mean she will not address other concerns as vice president. During her campaign, in response to student concern, she has added to her platform the issue of improving the student/security relationship. She plans to address the problem with the Community Council if elected.

Alyson Cucci has demonstrated to her friends and people that know her that she will sacrifice her time for others. It is not that she is ignoring her own priorities, helping others is one of her priorities. Ask people who have played varsity sports with her. Ask people who have worked and interacted with her on the Residential Life Staff. Ask us. We believe that Alyson Cucci is the right choice for SGA vice president.

Cindy Sada '97
Todd Hankinson '97
Vikram Sundar '97
Jen Gelb '97
Sarah Gilson '97.5
Karu Kozuma '98
Chuck Edwards '98
Kara Veley '98
Craig Bouchard '98
Robbie Levy '99
Helen Gemmill '00

SGA labeled 'Middlebury's most pathetic student group'

William Maris '97

It's rather simple, really. Answer these questions: What has the SGA accomplished, this year, or any year, for that matter? Who represents you, your dorm or your house in the SGA? Who is your SAC representative? I can't answer any of those questions either. Despite years of resolutions, even adding a sidewalk from Munroe to McCullough has proven to be too controversial and too difficult a problem for Middlebury's most pathetic student group to solve.

Let's see, the College recently gifted $1 million to the town of Middlebury, and let me remind you of the SGA's opinion: Oh, that's right, they had no opinion. No one even bothered to ask students. Hmm. What about the size of the student body? Nope, no leadership there. Remember President McCardell's generous plan to obliterate all those pesky downtown shops by selling our land to build a Price Chopper, and subsequently a Wal-Mart? The conspicuous silence of Karen Lewis et al. was truly moving.

"But what about integrated dorms?" you ask. The righteous indignation of the SGA was - oh, nowhere to be found. Student opposition was expressed (feebly), but it then became clear that The Man had already made up his mind. Rather than challenge a decision which clearly short circuited student input, a memo was issued by Ron "I'm No Bureaucrat, I'm a Vice-President!" Liebowitz, which the SGA quickly accepted and then forgot.

Lest we forget, when two students in one day were hit by cars, the SGA resolved to install better lighting, and those lights, I am glad to report, have been installed. You see they are imaginary lights. (Just close your eyes and pretend it's sunny. It works!). And, on the most critical question of our time, where was SGA leadership, as our security force made the transition from simple polyester pants to quasi-military multi-zippered parachute-type riot regalia?

I believe in giving the devil his due, so I do credit the SGA for protecting their fellow students to some degree. SGA leadership has made it possible for Middlebury students to proudly proclaim from every hill and dale, "No, we are not the most poorly lit campus in America, we are the second most poorly lit! We do not have the worst sexual assault and rape prevention policies in the United States, we have the most inadequate procedures and facilities in New England! President McCardell is right: We are the College of Choice for the nocturnal rapists of America!" It is clear that the administration takes an SGA resolution about as seriously as I do.

The SGA is a toothless mongrel which lovingly gums the leg of the administration. Let's put some fangs in that mangy beast. Bryan Stratton is the set of dentures this dog requires. Thank you.

College residential life undermined by lack of privacy

Jon Elder '97

Middlebury is a residential college. Its mission statement and various catalogues make no mystery of this fact, boasting high percentages of students who continually live on the Middlebury College campus. What pamphlets do not include is the disturbing sacrifice of privacy, and even dignity, that Middlebury students are forced to endure in exchange for this supposed "sense of community"

The extremely limited number of spots allotted for off-campus living, ranging somewhere from 80-100 students each year, is testimony to the administration's strong desire to ensure the "on-campus feel" of Middlebury College. Based on the invasive strategies of Middlebury Security used in "preventing underage drinking" or whatever else it is that they are trying to "prevent," it is evident that the administration is not keeping its end of the residential deal — which would be to recognize students' dorm rooms as personal and private spaces, inhabited by people entitled to those same rights of living enjoyed by those precious few whom the college has reluctantly allowed to live off campus. Such respect should be especially applicable to social houses, whose physical design and fewer residents reflect a more intimate atmosphere than does the conventional dormitory, and hence more conducive to social gatherings. Those residing in the latter, however, nonetheless deserve similar rights, though they may apply only to their actual rooms.

In general, students at Middlebury have offered little vocal resistance to the college's limitations on off-campus housing. But as several articles in recent issues of the Campus have noted, many students are fast escaping our campus to the atmosphere of off-campus parties, where they are free from the anxiety generated by security guard commandos wielding stacks of citations. I do not however want to dwell on the underage drinking aspect of the off-campus mystique; rather, I hope to elucidate the blatant imbalance between overall rights of privacy enjoyed by those students who live off-campus and the impingement of those rights faced all too frequently by those of us who are still supposedly absorbing the benefits of Middlebury's residential life style.

...it is evident that the administration is not keeping its end of the residential deal — which would be to recognize students' dorm rooms as personal and private spaces...

New to the college's list of authoritarian social measures is the concept of the "illegal party," constituted by the presence of 10 or more people— or is it six, eight or 30? Perhaps another problem is the administration's unwillingness to communicate the implementation of these new policies — consuming alcohol in the same space. Being the president of a social house, I have seen such scenarios result in citations all too frequently. A student living in a Middlebury apartment will, of course, never have to worry about such a situation. So why should a student living on campus, who presumably agrees with the college's prescribed positive attributes of a close, on-campus college community, have to worry? I am 22 years old. It is unfair, and, frankly, thoroughly unbelievable that if on a Wednesday night I am having a few drinks with ten or so of my friends in my room or in a lounge, I actually have to worry about being cited for holding an illegal party. Worse, in clinging to the increasingly obsolete notion that my residence is my own private space, I am constantly annoyed by the invasive presence of random security "patrols" through my house on a given night.

Certainly, some upperclassmen living on campus are embittered rejects of the off-campus draw. But many more are students who have chosen to live here, and in doing so have visibly expressed their faith in, and support for, the Middlebury community so extolled in Middlebury College promotional literature. Given the considerable "comprehensive fee," one would think that the college could establish a relationship with its residents that mirrors, or at least attempts to mirror, that of landlord and tenant. Such a relationship encompasses rights of privacy that are unfortunately not experienced here at Middlebury, including the right to peace of mind, free from the unnecessary anxiety that accompanies the threat of citations for otherwise legal recreational activity.

There are many steps that can be taken to improve upon the current invasive presence of college officials that leaves many students feeling violated. One would be to require Security officers to establish "reasonable suspicion or cause" before entering a college residence. Obviously routine patrols are necessary at times to ensure what should be Security's main focus — students' safety. Such patrols could be announced in advance through a printed schedule to be made available to residents. But there is no sound precedent for random weeknight "patrols" though quiet houses and residence halls — an activity that, regardless of supposed purpose, leaves residents feeling as though they are being baby-sat, depriving them of a sense of privacy and dignity. Barring the presence of raging fires, external complaints, or evidence of activity which violates college policy that is visible from the outside of a building, Security need not randomly enter a residence hall, reminding its inhabitants that their space is not theirs after all.

The "illegal party" rule, on the other hand, should be altogether abolished. So many other college violations are rationalized in the Handbook through the phrase, "...is a violation of Vermont state law and therefore..." Is the gathering of ten or more 21 year old students with a few beers a violation of Vermont state law? What, then, is the motive for such a category of penalization? Certainly it is not one of student safety. If a student chooses to drink legally with friends in a space for which he or she has paid a considerable sum, just as an apartment tenant has, shouldn't he or she be able to enjoy such activities that are otherwise protected by Vermont state privacy laws, as apartment tenants do?

By pressuring students to live on campus, the administration is in effect saying, "Please don't move off campus where you will enjoy all of the rights deserved by a 19 to 22 year old citizen. Stay on campus and contribute to Middlebury's celebrated tradition of residential and community life. Oh yeah, there's one catch, you keep otherwise private residential space will be constantly policed, so keep your nose clean. After all we do own the buildings." No wonder the line for off-campus living privileges is increasingly long each year.

Solution to drunk driving lies with students

Heather Morgan '99

There are tons of students who are in need of employment — like myself — and tons of students in need of safe rides. So why not apply a little economics and supply a service that is in great demand? An organized group of student drivers, using their own vehicles could transport intoxicated students between off-campus and on-campus parties and residences. If the school is not willing to pay these student drivers, funds could be obtained in other ways. We could petition the Commons or do some fundraising. Alternatively, students could be charged a small fee per night or per ride or purchase a yearly Student Safe Rides pass.

We need to be proactive and assume the responsibilities that come with freedom. We can't always depend on the administration to baby-sit us, especially when we are always whining for them to leave us alone.

There could be a predetermined list of designated stops constructed from student input and including downtown bars and all off-campus residences. Students living off-campus could call in on a nightly basis to make their residence an active or de-active stop. If students finds themselves intoxicated and without a safe ride, they could call the Student Safe Rides hot-line. Cars could periodically return to a home base on campus where someone monitoring the phone calls could relay ride requests. Or one or two cars a night could be equipped with portable phones so they could respond to calls.

Student drivers would not forfeit their social lives. The more students involved, the more rotation possible. Each driver could work as much or as little as they wanted. They could work one night a weekend, one night every three weekends, or just an occasional two-hour shift.

Columnists look at SGA candidates

(continued from page 7)

is much wrong with the SGA. Mr. Stratton claims that SGA is useless and has not achieved much over the last year. However, a quick look at the SGA's activities this year shows that the body has been very active in addressing the students' needs.

The SGA played a crucial role in preserving the first-year experience for future Middlebury classes. While the administration suggested completely altering the manner in which freshmen are housed, the SGA, acting on widely-known student feelings, proposed an alternative which improves those things that are wrong with our first-year program, yet still preserves it.

The SGA also played a important role in bringing student input into the discussions over the Master Plan, and to retain student input in the curricular decisions of the faculty. Furthermore, acting on student demand for a walkway between McCullough and Voter, as well as improved lighting on campus, SGA successfully lobbied the administration to include the improvement of these facilities in the renovation plans for this summer.

What is so terribly wrong with our lives here that SGA has not addressed? What issues have been brought to the body that it decided to ignore? Mr. Stratton, who is clearly complaining about the existence of such issues, does not mention what they are. Through this campaign he has engaged in shocking students into believing that their lives here are horrible, and that it is the SGA's fault. Even if one believes this is the case, Mr. Stratton's presidency would offer no relief.

He has claimed that as a new, revolutionary voice he can improve student life; however, his stated method of achieving this goal is unrealistic, misguided and potentially detrimental to the modicum of respect the faculty and administration still has for students. He has not tried to hide his desire to "piss the administration off." Is the administration going to be willing to respond to demands from someone whose first task is to "piss them off?" Rather then responding to student needs when they are presented in Mr. Stratton's flippant and disrespectful manner, the administration will likely choose to disregard student input to an even greater extent than they do currently.

Mr. Stratton declared in his speech in Mead Chapel a week ago that God had convinced him to run for President with the promise of a $160 a month stipend if he won. At Monday's debates, he announced that this part of his speech had been "what we call a joke." Mr. Stratton's campaign, and the idea that he may actually win, is what we call a joke — and a frightening prospect.

Do not allow Mr. Stratton to make a mockery of the student body at Middlebury. Vote for the qualified candidates with realistic ideas for the future — ideas that will change your experience here for the better. Vote Alyson Cucci and AJ Poor.

Zaire suffers from end of Belgian rule

Raju Sitaula '98

Referring to the instability that followed in most of the African countries after their independence, a noted French intellectual, Jean-Louis Miège, once wrote that the decolonization of Africa marks the success, not the failure, of colonization. No where is this more apparent than in Zaire.

Zaire is a political horror story. Everything that can go wrong has gone wrong. The thirty-two year old Mobutu regime is about to collapse. While no one knows yet what will replace mobutism, the most likely contender, the Laurent Kabila led rebel movement that has already conquered more than half of Zaire, looks hardly any better.

In Zaire, one dictatorship is about to be replaced by another. In the mean time, everything has collapsed and the state has disappeared. Africa's third largest country with more than 40 million people is in absolute anarchy.

In the thirty-seven years after independence from Belgium in 1960, Zaire, once an Eldorado of natural riches, has become one of the poorest countries in the world. At the same time, the CIA installed Mobutu, who has ruled thirty-two of these thirty-seven years, has amassed one of the world's largest personal fortunes, with some estimates putting it as high as 5 billion dollars.

Unfortunately this Zairian tragedy is one of the most frequented stories of the Post-Colonial Africa.

However, Jean-Louis Miège's claim that the decolonization of Africa marks the success of colonization is wrong. In the case of Zaire, no one is more responsible for the present chaos than Belgium, Zaire's colonial master.

Belgium held Zaire until it could not hold anymore and when it left, it left completely. No Zairians were trained to govern.

After years of oppressive colonial rule Zaire became free. But freedom is not enough to build a nation. Zaire did not have capable leadership to forge hundreds of ethnic groups and tribes, who had few things in common besides the same colonial masters, into one nation. Like in so many other places in Africa, the Zairian experiment of nation building was doomed from the beginning.

But to imply that the Africans can not take charge of their own destiny and that they were better off during colonization is nothing more than a neo-colonial stand, something that makes the northern imperialists feel better.

Let us not generalize Africa into further darkness.

Junior proproses change in school's admissions criteria

James Holland '98

In the past two weeks hundreds of prospective students have visited the Middlebury campus in the hope that they might be persuaded to matriculate at Middlebury College. As a tour guide, I have had the opportunity to introduce many of these students and their families to the campus. I have enjoyed the opportunity to do so, and especially have enjoyed talking with students about their expectations — academic, personal, social — of a Middlebury education. In doing so, I have been prompted to ask myself the following questions: "Why did I apply to Middlebury College?" and "Why was I accepted to Middlebury College?" and "Why did I matriculate at Middlebury College?"

I applied to Middlebury because Middlebury offered a course of study in which I was interested. At that time I did not consider Middlebury a significant option. For I did not fully understand the impact which higher education would have on me. I was too concerned with my life at that time, and I did not want to be bothered with applying to schools. Maybe, on my part, applying to Middlebury was an insouciant decision, but life is all about insouciance. I do not regret my decision. For if I had been more serious about applying to schools, then I would not have applied to Middlebury.

I matriculated at Middlebury because I was accepted. In a recent op-ed, I explained my reasons for doing so. In short, I opted for the small, liberal arts college, and not the large, research university.

...as the level of competition for admission to Middlebury College increases...Middlebury needs to maintain its level of academic integrity, but it also needs to maintain its level of "personal" integrity.

Why was I accepted to Middlebury College? That is the question, is it not? I was a well-qualified applicant, and I anticipated that I would be accepted on my merits. Therefore, in haste, I wrote the essays to complete the application. In retrospect, I feel as though my essays demonstrated a lack of sincerity. By no means, was I passionate about Middlebury College at that time.

After I was accepted at Middlebury, I re-read my application, and I was disappointed in myself for its quality. I wondered why I had been accepted. My application only demonstrated my merits, and I feel as though merits do not justify an acceptance. Nonetheless, I matriculated at Middlebury, and in doing so, I discovered that the mentality of other students at Middlebury paralleled my own.

What am I saying? I feel as though students need to be selected more so for compassion, integrity, and respect than for merits. I am not saying that I do not have compassion, integrity, and respect. I feel as though I do, and that the majority of students here do. I am saying that I did not express these qualities in my application, and I wonder why I was accepted. Nonetheless, I am indebted to those people at The Emma Willard House who understand that the application may not convey the array of qualities and characteristics which an applicant may possess, and who are able to identify an applicant's potential for growth. For those students with whom I entered Middlebury have developed into ambitious, intelligent adults. Most are passionate about Middlebury College, and will be able to express themselves more passionately and sincerely in the future.

Two years ago Scott Paul, a candidate for SGA President, advocated the addition of student voice as part of the admission's process. I support this addition. Middlebury students have an impact on the majority of prospective students who are making a decision about Middlebury. I ask that we also have an impact on the students who are accepted at Middlebury College, and who will have an impact on the future of Middlebury. I feel as though student voice in the admission process would enhance the quality of the student body. Students must be able to shape the institution in which they are the foundation. I understand that many members of the admission's staff are recent Middlebury graduates, but I feel as though students would be able to offer a unique perspective to the admission's process. For students would be able to reflect on their experience applying to Middlebury, reflect on their personal growth as a Middlebury student, and reflect on the impact which they have had at Middlebury College. In doing so, I feel as though students would be inclined to select those applicants who not necessarily produce the "numbers," but more so those who represent compassion, integrity, and respect. For as the level of competition for admission to Middlebury College increases, initially the "numbers" are used to reduce the applicant pool. Middlebury needs to maintain its level of academic integrity, but it also needs to maintain its level of "personal" integrity.

Bruce supports Stratton for President

Noah Bruce '98

Good Stuff: You know, before I got to know Bryan Stratton, I was guilty of prejudging him. I thought "black leather jacket, Marilyn Manson t-shirt, purple nails, pierced eyebrow, goes by the name of Dreamlord, that boy's an anti-social weirdo." After spending some time with the guy I realized I was wrong. He's a sociable weirdo. Not only that, Bryan is also a damn smart cookie and has leadership skills to boot. I know this because I've watched him as Station Manager at WRMC. He's got his act together, runs an efficient meeting, and allows the WRMC staff the leeway to get things done.

Now every leader has to be responsible and has to have the ability to stand in front of others, but it's this last point, his pragmatism that makes Bryan the best choice for president in this coming election. I've talked to a bunch of the students around campus and I'll tell you most of them have no idea what the SGA does. The two things that most students were able to cite as SGA achievements were the placing of speed bumps behind the A-frames and the laying of hay to combat the mud. Hay and speed-bumps. Doesn't seem that in the eyes of your average student, at least, the SGA gets all that much done. And everyone seemed to list red tape as a reason why the SGA is so ineffective. "Seem like a bunch of hounds a' chasin' their own tails" said junior Michael Loewengart.

And this so called red-tape, this compulsion to dally on little rules of procedure is exactly the garbage that Bryan wants to get rid of. When I was waiting with the other would be candidates to find out if the assembly would ratify us or not, Dean Hanson came out of the meeting and told us "They just spent five minutes debating whether they could vote by hand or not."

If you multiply five minutes by about a bijillion you will have the number of minutes wasted by our student government. And that is part of the reason why problems of diversity and the meal plan are never properly addressed and good ideas are often left hung out to dry.

This is why we need Stratton. I mean look at this kid. Do you really think he would be feel the need to pander to bureaucracy? He doesn't give a rat's behind about his resume or his political future beyond Middlebury and this, if he is elected, gives him the unique opportunity to shake things up around here.

And things need a shakin' if the SGA is to be an organization that actually represents the students and has the ability to get things done.

Dear Editor:

What's up with posting room draw numbers a few hours before room draw? That's dumb.

Tim "Stuck in a Bad Room" Bartlett is a member of the Middlebury College Class of 1998.

Student defends role of Security on campus

(continued from page 6)

letters. In both letters I sensed a very thinly-veiled scorn for those who have to work for a living and spend their weekends not "enjoying themselves"— Ms. Hall uses the phrase as a synonym for drinking, thus proving she is not too familiar with her thesaurus either— but rather protecting the safety of the very same people who feel the need to ridicule them. Anyone who compares Security to a "puppet" because they do what the administration orders them to do obviously has little or no work experience. The administration is their employer and unlike Mommy and Daddy, they won't shell out the dough if Security fails to perform the duties expected of them. That's right; harsh as it may seem, if Security does whatever it wants and not what the school wants, they don't get their beer and Pathfinder allowance.

As I mentioned before, I am a member of Student Security and do not have to deal with the same responsibilities as the full time officers. I don't work for a living (yet), I work for spending money. Mommy and Daddy will even buy me a Pathfinder (or in my case a Subaru). When I take off my little orange vest I no longer have to make sure there are no fights in McCullough and that the adolescent trying to "feel like an adult for a change" doesn't drown in his/her own puke. They are no longer my responsibility. Yet such students do not seem to be responsible for themselves either. Otherwise, why would there be so many alcohol poisonings, alcohol-related fights, alcohol-related idiocy? Protecting people from their own stupidity is a tough job. Until more students learn to drink responsibly, Security deserves a break.

Scott Kim is a member of the Middlebury College Class of 1997.

Legitimacy of Stratton's candidacy questioned

Raoul Pop '98

I wanted to respond to James Holland's article from last week's newspaper, and wholly agree with his points about Bryan Stratton. I'll go a little further though, because I'm not as nice as James.

In order to make sure that I wasn't wrong in judging Stratton, I looked at his platform, listened to his interview with Dave Weinberg on "Behind the Mask" on Sunday evening, and went to the SGA debates. I concluded that all that time was wasted. I ended up not only not changing my opinion, but actually being persuaded that I should be even harsher in my comments.

What do I think about Bryan Stratton then? In a nutshell, here it is, and please keep in mind that this is only my opinion, and it is purely speculative; I'm writing about hesitantly, because it will sound formal and probably get misread. But, here it goes.

His continual mockery of the SGA and the administration, and his wish to change the status quo radically are all a direct expression of his dislike for authority, a feeling which is motivated by his social ineptitude in the world which he now seeks to straddle.

To me, he resembles the classic psychopath (no, not the violent kind portrayed in movies). Stratton instead finds other ways of expressing himself: he keeps his hair extra long, (and I want to clarify that it's a question of intent here, not of hair length, before every guy with long hair gets on my case); he wears clothes which are meant to make him stand out, and he gestures and speaks in a manner which can only be characterized as narcissistic. There are of course other things which have contributed to my decision, but I'd rather not touch on those because they wouldn't be appropriate for a public medium.

I think he is motivated to run for SGA president for the following reasons, be they conscious or subconscious: (1) he is not exactly good looking, (2) he is not exactly held in high regard by the SGA 'clique' or by normal people for that matter and (3) his desire to disregard the rules that society has set down for proper behavior (psychopaths usually feel rules are too mundane to be obeyed).

He therefore yearns to be the iconoclast and the underdog (I hesitate to use this term on him, because the positive connotations are wasted here), and achieve what is termed as impossible or unacceptable by the conservative contingent (please read this as 'people who are mature enough to look at things in a responsible manner, not the ones who cheered and encouraged his swearing in Mead Chapel on Monday night') of the student body.

His continual mockery of the SGA and the administration, and his wish to change the status quo radically are all a direct expression of his dislike for authority, a feeling which is motivated by his social ineptitude in the world which he now seeks to straddle. I wish the students who are now unfortunately blinded by his sick charisma see it as it is and not be drawn into making a big mistake.

One side note: I actually had an apology after my comments about Stratton in my first draft, but I couldn't help taking it out after being angered by his complete lack of manners and absence of diplomacy on Monday night.

Ought we to vote for him then? Not unless we want to get "f***d up", all of us, that is (and here I'm quoting Mr. Stratton), and certainly not unless we wish to have Middlebury's reputation as a serious college crumble faster than I could toss a Marilyn Manson CD into the garbage. Can we at least laugh at his recycled jokes? Oh sure, if you can find them funny enough. I couldn't.

Edgar Finds His Purpose

David Enslee

Since I've worked 72 hours straight on my thesis, I'm going to be selfish. This week's column is going to be about ME. David C. Enslee. All about me. Screw the witticisms about our rustic community. Who needs 'em? Instead, let's talk about the nonsense to which I'm forced to devote a full 20% of my waking hours. To what am I referring? My thesis? My course-load? Laundry? Struggling to avoid ending sentences with a preposition? Nope. The bane of my very existence, which plagues me from when I awaken to when I fall asleep is — my hair.

I'm pretty sure you've at least seen me at one time or another, but for those of you who do not know me, I shall now offer a brief history of my hair. In September of 1993, I arrived at Middlebury College, naive with the freedom that a departure from home had thrust upon me. However, instead of drinking myself into oblivion like much of the rest of my Battell brethren and sisthren, I decided to celebrate my new-found independence in a much more innocuous way: by growing my hair. I know this may sound inexplicably lame, but one must understand that I attended a private school rife with arbitrary dress-code rules. Though it was perfectly acceptable for girls to wear miniskirts that barely went down past their belly buttons, it was a big no-no for guys to have long hair. Our school just didn't want to give the impression that we had a bunch of long-haired, straight-A student hooligans roaming their halls, so long male tresses were out. Therefore, Middlebury gave me that innocent freedom I had lusted after for so long.

Perhaps the folks at Newark Academy were onto something with their dress code. Following a summer of growing my hair, I arrived at Middlebury with my hair nearly shoulder length. Upon sitting down to have my ID photo taken, I was instructed to remove my NY Yankees cap. I did so. I was promptly begged to put the damn thing back on. To put it bluntly, my hair just wasn't meant for growin'. Willis and Arnold had nothing on me. I had the 'fro to end all 'fros.

Yet, I was not deterred. I kept growing the hair, criticism be damned. Finally at ponytail length, things were briefly under control. But as the ponytail grew, it grew up and around and every direction but down. The mass had a life of its own. I added hair-tie after hair-tie to keep it under control, but to no avail. I avoided the inevitable for as long as possible, but finally, after a dreadful mosh-pit experience where a large chunk of my hair was torn out, I was forced to accept reality. The message had been sent. The gods of hair had spoken in the form of a 200 pound lunatic falling on my head and nearly

(see Enslee, page 12)

Former olympian speaks of his life with 'no regrets'

By Pete Brooks
Staff Writer

I interviewed Tom Southworth in his home, on the grounds of the Garland Sawmill in Lancaster, New Hampshire on Sunday, March 16. Tom lives there with his wife Nancy, who is a book binder. Many might say that to be rich you have to live in an enormous house with tons of money in the bank, but it's clear, after talking to Tom and seeing where he lives, that there is more to being rich than just having money in the bank.

My residence at the time of my birth was Arlington, Virginia. We lived there for four years. My father worked for the National Department of Agriculture in Washington, D.C., and when I was four we moved to Alexandria, Virginia. He stayed with the Department of Agriculture until 1956-1957, when he took a professorship at Penn State University. So, we moved to State College, Pennsylvania. Mom didn't work. She had a whole house on her hands; back in those days, the fifties and sixties, it was less common for women to have jobs, but she was an active volunteer.

There are four boys in our family. I'm number two. Ed's my older brother, Harry's the next under me, and then Doug's the youngest.

I really liked it in State College. We lived in the mountains, and I was active in Boy Scouts. I liked it just fine. We did climbing, hiking, canoeing, camping. Our parents didn't go with us — that was more stuff for us to do on our own.

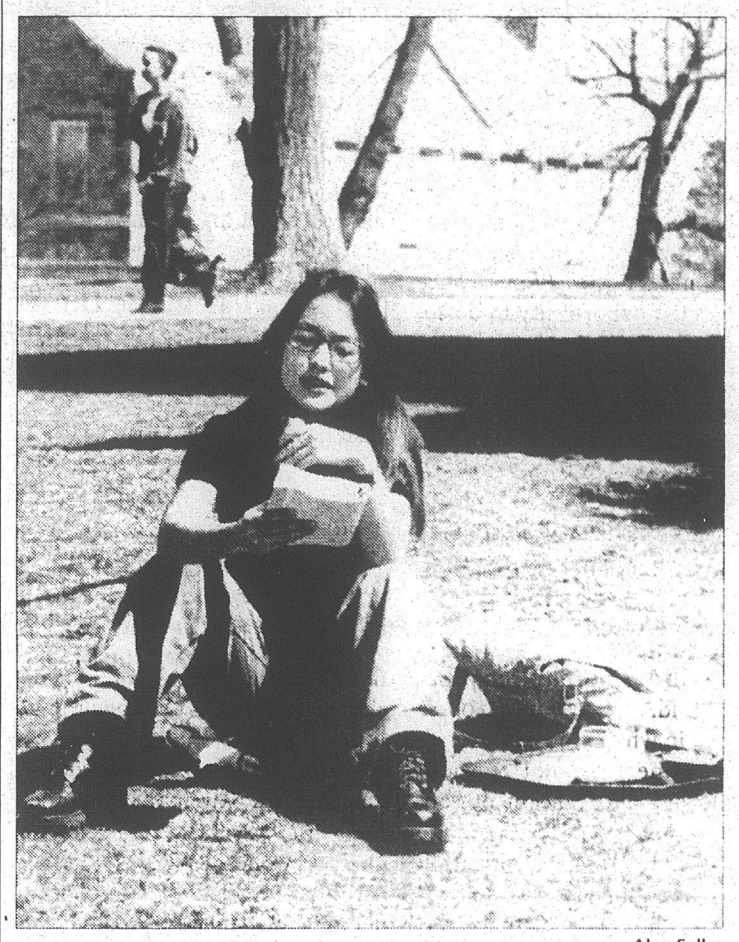
My father was very much of a scholar, and a night owl. He read a lot, literally staying up till two o'clock in the morning. He was a slow starter in the morning, and was very much into his own thoughts. He was actually a mathematician and physicist by training, so he would sit in his study with his cigarettes, and books in his lap, and do math problems. He was an editor of a professional journal, so everything he did, he did at an incredibly slow pace, but very intensely. He was sort of a traditional father: he didn't run out with the boys, and try and get us to win games in little league, or anything like that. I think we're all sort of the product of our time, and he certainly was. He was raising four kids to the best of his ability. He had a bit of a stand-offish attitude about things, but it didn't mean he wasn't paying any attention to us. We had a very good relationship, but as I say, it wasn't a buddy, buddy kind of relationship; he was more of a parent rather than a best friend. He was a very principled guy, you know?

I'm sure Dad had his disappointments, and I'm sure he had his wish list, but he was a man of very few words. I know if Dad had had his drothers, he would have preferred to see us all a little bit more scholarly in what we chose to be. Still, he wanted us to all choose our own courses.

Backtracking, the canoe racing business started, when we began paddling canoes in boy scouts. We would run these white water rivers all over the central part of Pennsyl-

(see Southworth, page 13)

Getting in touch with nature



Alex Fuller

Malaya Rivera-Drew '99 takes advantage of the spring weather *on Earth Day, to eat lunch outside, on the lawn next to Mead Chapel.*

Pesticides pose threat to food chain

By Andy C. Smith
Columnist

"It was spring without voices. On the mornings that had once throbbed with the dawn chorus of robins, catbirds, doves, jays, wrens, and scores of other bird voices there was now no sound; only silence lay over the fields and woods and marsh." Rachel Carson opened her classic 1962 book, *Silent Spring*, with this fable lamenting the overuse of pesticides. She uses common language and thorough documentation to explain the effects of human pesticide use on bird populations.

Many people mark the beginning of the contemporary environmental movement with the publication of Carson's book. It sparked attacks from the pesticide

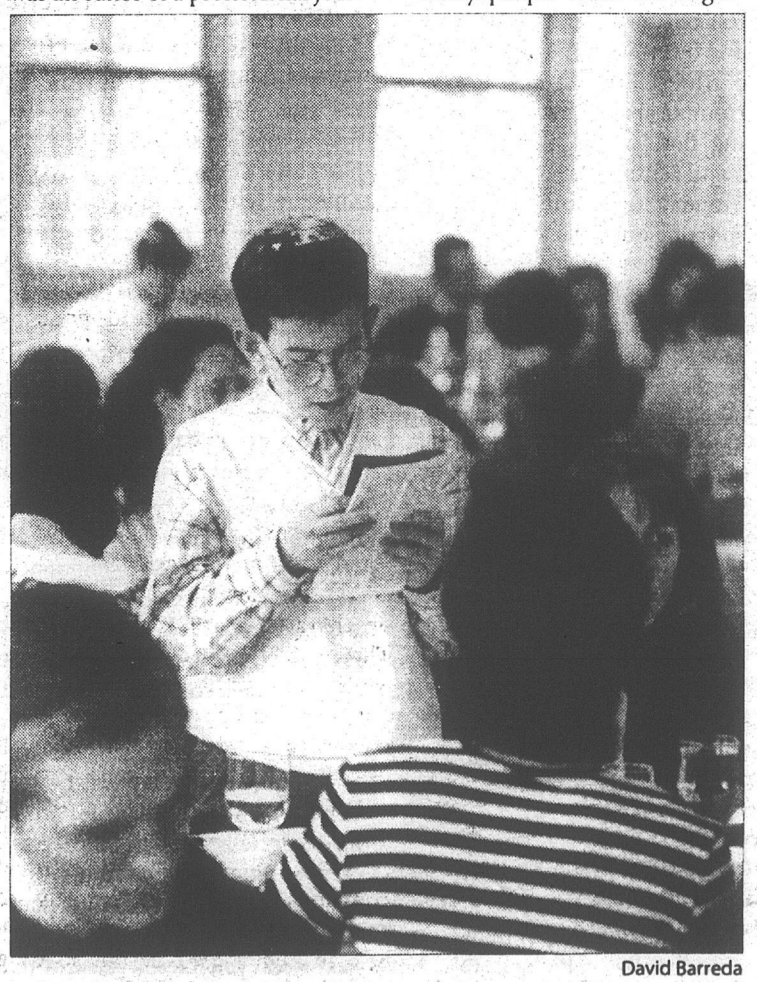
Field Notes

industry and aroused action from bird lovers. The misuse of pesticides is now commonly known as a threat to both bird and human communities.

Carson's argument was based on the concept of "bioconcentration," which began to be recognized in the late 1950s. DDT was "broadcast sprayed" over fields and forests to control Dutch elm disease, and it stayed its path through the food-chain, becoming more concentrated farther along. Soil-eating earthworms accumulated the persistent pesticide within their bodies, and worm-eating robins would then ingest even greater concentrations- — essentially taking DDT tablets.

The decimation of Brown Pelicans, Peregrine Falcons, and Bald Eagles was a result of bioconcentration; generally, the long-lived, predatory seabirds suffered gruesome losses. But the sudden, near-demise of American Robins was the first recognizable sign of trou-

(see Pesticides, page 12)



David Barreda

Tradition dictates that the youngest child present, here Neil Manus, reads the four questions to commence Passover.

Bruce highlights lighter side of Passover seder

By Noah Bruce
Staff Writer

Passover is the Festival of Lights where the Jewish people celebrate the Maccabee's victory over the, oh wait... that's Hannukah. Passover is the festival when the Jews remeber their exodus from Egypt, where they were slaves under the oppressive hands of Pharoah. At the Passover dinner, called a seder, (see glossary of Passover terms) Jewish people recount the story of the liberation of the Jews by God acting through His agent, Moses. Originally Moses wasn't even asking for total liberation. All he wanted was for Pharaoh to let the Jews leave the city to pray at Mt. Zion. Pharaoh being the villain he was "hardened his heart" to the plight of the Jews. So God, being the Old Testament butt kicker that He was, told Moses to tell Pharaoh to let the Jews go or he would turn all the water in the land of Egypt into blood. Pharoah refused and bam! all the water was blood. Now I don't know about you but, if someone told me that all the water was going to turn to blood and it happend, I'd listen to that guy. Pharoah, though, after begging forgiveness in order to stop the plague, "hardened his heart" some more. This process was repeated nine more times. The plagues were: frogs, gnats, flies, murrain (cattle-disease), boils, hail, locusts, and darkness. After all this, Pharaoh was still obstinate so God brought the worst plague, the slaying of the first born son. The Jews, in order to avoid this plague, marked their doors with the blood from the leg of a lamb so that when the angel of death came around he would see the blood and pass over the Jewish door. Hence the term Passover (Get it?).

At seders around the world and at Middlebury, the Jewish people (and curious non-Jews) commemorate this event, and thank God for their freedom. The book with the special Passover prayers is called the Haggadah. At the Middlebury seder there were about ten tables and different parts of the Haggadah were

(see Bruce, page 14)

Pesticides pose threat to food chain

(continued from page 11)
ble.

Our pesticide attack was not the only time people have damaged robin populations. Robins were a 19th-century culinary delight in a time when poultry was not limited to only turkey, chicken, and grouse. Naturalist John James Audubon wrote of robins in 1840, "every gunner brings them home by bagsful, and the markets are supplied with them at a very cheap rate." Sounds like he could have been talking about Passenger Pigeons, which never recovered from our blind eagerness. But robins did survive the threat of people in the 19th century, and they've done it again in the 20th.

Robins' presence has been noticeable recently in Middlebury, since their annual migratory return around spring break. Every dawn and dusk, they sing loudly all over campus: "cheerily, cheerily, cheer-up, cheerily." In addition to their song, robins are easily identified by their orange breasts. They are not the most timid of birds, so it is likely that you will see one up close. If you do, its large eyes and beak will also be particularly unique features.

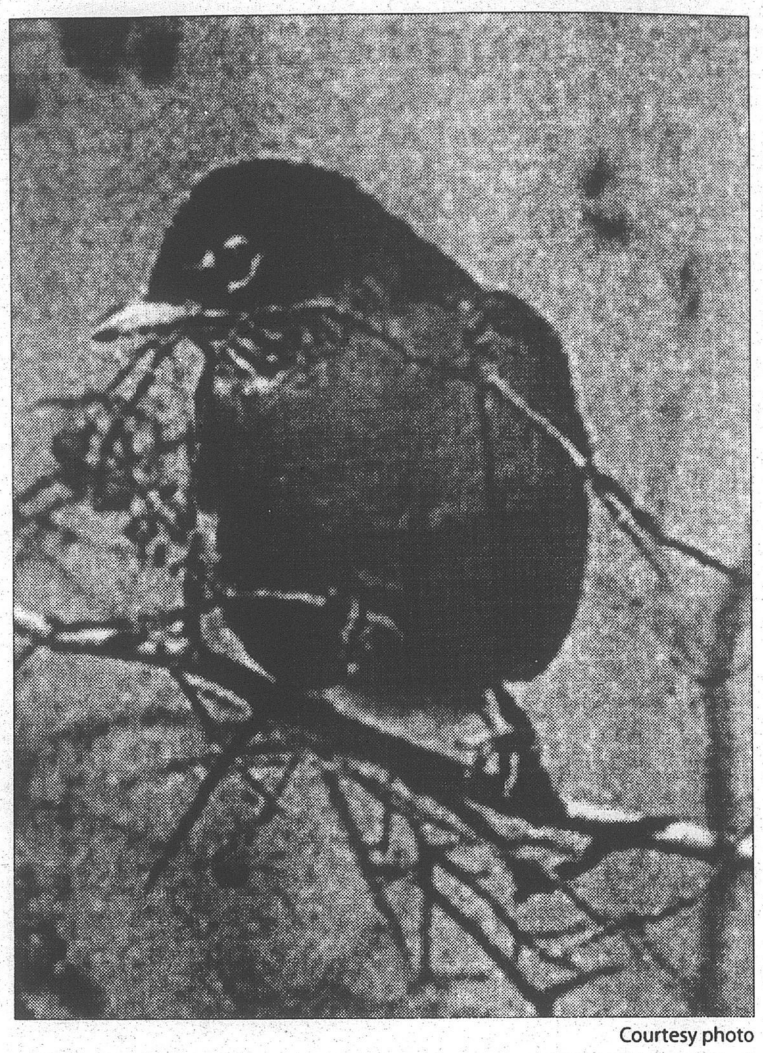
Robins are what ecologists call "habitat generalists," which means that they are not picky about where they spend their time. They live in urban and rural areas: in forests, parks, and gardens. In any of these places, about this time of year, a courting male struts around a female with its tail spread, wings shaking, and throat inflated. If the female approves of the male, she builds a nest (with a little help from her male) in a building, tree, shrub, or occasionally on the ground. The nest is bowl-shaped and eventually holds four, pale-blue, inch-long eggs. The female incubates the eggs for approximately two weeks, while the male brings her food — worms, insects, and fruit.

Thanks in part to Carson's prophecy of a potentially silent spring, DDT was banned from use in the United States in 1972. Since then, American Robin populations quickly rebounded.

When the eggs hatch, the young are "altricial," which means that they are born naked, immobile, with eyes closed, and needing to be fed. Adult robins usually produce two rounds of offspring each season. So, while the female is sitting on the second clutch, the male is caring for the fledgling birds from the first clutch. Robins are often called monogamous, but that term can be misleading. While one female does mate with the same male for multiple seasons, she commonly changes mates throughout a lifetime.

This sort of life-cycle worked well for generations of robins, until DDT became a significant part of their diets. The pesticide didn't actually make many adult birds sick. Rather, it worked its harm by thinning the eggshells of DDT-infested parents. Unable to support the weight of the incubating parents, the eggs turned into omelets before they could develop into healthy young.

Thanks in part to Carson's prophecy of a potentially silent spring, DDT was banned from use in the United States in 1972. Since then, American Robin populations quickly rebounded. The larger birds of prey, however, are more hesitantly returning to stable numbers. With pesticides being increasingly integrated into the production of nearly all human food, Carson's message remains important today.



Courtesy photo

With the advent of Spring, American Robins can be seen all over campus.

Enslee finds a solution to hair-raising problem

(continued from page 11)
decapitating me. The hair had to go.

And so, the beloved locks were cut, and lie to this day in a bag in my bedroom at home. Yet I had a new plague to deal with. As I had struggled so hard to forget, I looked like a used car salesman when I had short hair. Doomed with hair somewhere between curly and wavy, stuck with the negatives of both but the positives of neither, I was forced to mope around with short hair. It just wasn't fair.

Flash-forward to May of 1996. Following a period of turbulence in my life, I had neglected to get a haircut since January. My hair was a bit of a mess, and it needed some tending. If only it could be straight. I pondered the unthinkable. My mother expressed alarm based on the experiences of some of her grad school friends who had attempted to straighten their hair and ended up bald in the process. But then again, what was worse than a monster 'fro? Certainly not baldness. With this new-found sense of purpose, I marched straight down to UnderCuts. The woman running the shop admitted that I was 'a challenge,' but I had the bucks, and I wanted straight locks. Two hours and a gallon of toxic chemicals later, it was all over. I had straight hair, more or less. For the first time in my life, I could actually run a comb through my hair without having to have it surgically removed. And, all I needed to make it absolutely straight was a lather, rinse-and-repeat, an application of Friz-Ease hair serum, and a half hour to 45 minutes of drying time. Then, voila.

As the months went by, my hair grew to ponytail length, and several touch-up jobs were made at UnderCuts. I graduate in five weeks and, to be honest, the thing I'm panicking over most isn't whether I'll be able to find a job; it's whether I'll be able to find a place that straightens hair as well as these folks up here. Accidental baldness, now, would be horrible. I've reached the promised land of long, straight(ish) hair. Perhaps I'll just travel back up here from New Jersey every four months for my touch up jobs. As I keep reminding myself, Middlebury is a pretty nice place after all. Oh well, back to my thesis.

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This Week in the Stars

By Anne Dromeda

General forecast:
As from under a wintry shroud emerges grass, groggy and unaccustomed, as on that grass appears pale startled flesh from under wintry layers, so our dormant wills blink awake under the sun of Late April. Encased in frozen earth, an ugly insular crocus bulb begins to respond to the slow and steady force to become a graceful green sun-lover, so our power to manifest our own wants reawakens — and our wants are voluptuous and earthy. Fiery Mars, who's been running around backwards bringing floods and snowy tempests since February, rights himself on Monday and joins our cause, spurring our wills to action.

Aries (March 21-April 19): Auspicious. You'll be compelled to seek deeper understanding and truth — or even Truth. In your search, you'll open to and explore another culture or religion. Also look to history or to areas you have considered unknowable, as your mind is especially original and inventive now.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): Out of your shell at last. Your drive is back and your sights are set on high achievement. You're sensitive and intuitive in your dealings with others, and equipped to tackle deep matters.

Gemini (May 21-June 21): Wonder Twin powers: activate! Relationships are intense and emotionally challenging, but you're up to it. Just ensure your own sense of security before you give in to your idealistic desire to help and solve.

Cancer (June 22-July 22): You're feeling a little crabby about work issues. You'll feel drained for a while yet, but by Tuesday Mars should restore your energy. Until then, someone close will feel protective towards you, and you can repay the thoughtfulness soon.

Leo (July 23-August 22): Your heart leads you down a passionate path. You lavishly embroider your affairs with drama, and may rekindle resentment against a past love. Things get funny on Monday with a strange ailment and vague sense of dissatisfaction.

Virgo (August 23- September 22): Your romantic life maintains an element of glamour and fantasy. At the end of this week, you'll have to deal with unresolved, mixed feelings about your family. At the beginning of next week, Mars and the moon will battle it out for control of your heart and head. I suspect Mars' influence will prevail as he rights himself in your sign: you'll be a better, more systematic worker, and will enjoy cool-headed control over your emotions.

Libra (September 23-October 22): It's a great time for writing, especially for autobiographical inspiration. Your concentration and memory are good, and your thoughts are original. Starting next week, you'll feel a sense of responsibility towards your family.

Scorpio (October 23-November 21): For the next few days you'll brood over an emotional wound and likely escape into imagination. All week, people will be drawn to you and respond to you positively, and you'll find you can easily influence them. Beware of abusing this power by meddling too much in private affairs.

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21): Starting Friday, you'll accentuate your magnetic personality to bring the admiration you desire, and you'll probably find someone willing to cuddle. Tuesday will find you generous to someone in need.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19): You may need to get away for the weekend and restore yourself, because you're easily hurt and victim to misunderstandings this week. Starting Monday, imagination will help in artistic work, but procrastination and absent-mindedness will threaten your productivity.

Aquarius (January 20- February 18): This is a good weekend to host a party or some other get-together. Your sensitivity and empathy will win you admirers, but you're likely to hide your own feelings about an important issue.

Pisces (February 19- March 20): You'll be drawn to an artistic, sensitive type, with whom you'll feel resonating accord, and will form a friendship based on common goals. He/she will likely be a Cancer or a Scorpio.

Southworth shares life of 'no regrets'

(continued from page 11)

vania, and I got really sucked into that. When I was a junior in high school, I went to a slalom canoe race with one of our clunky old open boats. Then, we decided we were going to try to invent some of these faster European style boats — knowing nothing. But, we actually had made some models, and kind of cooked up a design, when, by complete accident, we ran into this guy from Yugoslavia. He designed a singles boat for us, and the three of us, our boy scout leader, and my friend and I, we went from obscurity to placing second, third, and fourth in the nationals in the first year we came out with this new boat.

So, that was in sixty-two, when we finally started making some waves in racing, and at that time, I went to Yugoslavia, and a year later, in sixty-three, all three of us made the national team.

I ended up going to the Olympics in 1972. My first world championships was 1963. The world championships were held every other year, so by the time I got around to making the Olympics, I was the old man of the sport. I was the only one of our original gang still left. That was a great experience; it was kind of a good race to retire on.

During that time I spent four years at Cornell, and two years at Boston University getting a masters degree in business administration. It was at a time when a masters degree would help you stay out of Vietnam, which I did manage to do, but I didn't manage to succeed in staying out of the army. I ended up having to enlist in a reserve program. I was a weekend warrior for six years. I wasn't too complementary of the whole system at the time, and I'm still not.

I never had my life road-mapped. I guess, I was more or less opportunistic. You know, when I got out of college I could see myself getting into teaching, going to law school, or going into the military, but I really didn't want to do any of these things, and so that left, sort of by default, business, which I thought I could do. But because of that sort of misguided thinking, and the Vietnam war, I applied to graduate school. So, like I say, one thing led to another, and eventually I decided to buy a sawmill in northern New Hampshire.

I met Nancy through the boating, in the summer of sixty-two. I was eighteen, she was fifteen, and four years later we got married. Well, she was fifteen and gorgeous, and she could paddle with a ferocious intensity. And I thought I was pretty hot stuff at the time, so I was showing off, and she saw right through that. She thought I was a jerk actually, for quite a long time. But I was so intensely interested that I wouldn't let up, and I finally wore her down. We got married, which meant that she had to drop out of school. She was just a sophomore. In retrospect, I think if any of my boys did that I'd skin 'em — you know, having a future wife drop out of school — but I was in a big rush at that time.

Nancy played a big role in us leaving Pennsylvania. See, this woman who was her professor has a place up here in Vermont, and when I was training for the Olympics, Nancy came up here and worked for Claire in Vermont, and fell in love with the upper Connecticut area. I had been enticed with a job at Hampshire College, but I figured, what the hell, if I was going to move north, it was gonna be a lot farther north than Amherst Massachusetts.

If I had known anything whatsoever about what I was getting into, I never would have touched it with a ten foot pole. I figured this is the last water-powered sawmill in commercial operation; it's sort of got my name written all over it. Why not? The old man I bought it from was seventy-four years old, and running the mill alone. The guy was working seventy hours a week. He'd start at five o'clock in the morning, take a half an hour for lunch, and an hour for dinner, then he'd go down and work till nine o'clock at night. And on Sundays, he'd take his wife for a drive in the pleasure car. It was the only time he drove that Pontiac. Then, Monday morning he'd be back in the saw mill at five o'clock. Oh he wore me right out, I'll tell you what, trying to keep up with him. It was a great working experience.

His name was Harold Alden, and I knew I couldn't be a Harold Alden. He had come from a family of eleven children, but had no children of his own, so he was a very single dimensioned kind of guy, and I found that very attractive, but it took me a little while before I realized that that's not who I was; that it wasn't going to be possible to live completely in the previous century as Harold had. But, I liked the notion of it. At first, we were just selling retail lumber, and that was madness — you know, the world's slowest saw mill, so we really didn't make much money. Then, in seventy-seven Harry came up and became a partner with me in business. It wasn't too long after that before we realized we needed to get a product. The following year, I worked for a friend who was an architect pounding nails. I really learned a lot about carpentry at that point. And after doing that for a couple of winters, through a friend of a friend, I ran into a guy building a timber-frame over in Maine. I went over and volunteered to help raise the frame. Then I came back and told Harry and another guy "We can do this." So, we all went over and volunteered, and on the way back we sort of hatched our own plans. "You know we can really do this," I said. We've got our own sawmill, we can make these timbers, and we can do the joinery. So we did. We just plunged into it — that was in eighty-six. And it's been like the tail wagging the dog ever since. And I've never wanted to turn back.

They say a man who is self-taught has a fool as a master. And I've proved that many times. But I've always been self-taught. I never excelled at learning any way other than the school of hard knocks.

I've always said that I felt it was important, raising children in a self-sufficient type of lifestyle. I think the kids learned that money didn't grow on trees and that Daddy wasn't going to buy cars for them. The one regret I have is that I didn't shape up earlier from the standpoint of my wife. You know she was in here cooking on a wood-stove for all those years — she ran out of the fun of it before I did. And I wish I had been a little more tuned in to shifting gears and getting into something a little more profitable, a little bit earlier than we did. But I don't believe in having a lot of regrets; if you allow yourself to look through life regretting the misdeeds of your past, there's no time for anything else because we all have enough misdeeds to, sort of, fill things up. No I don't have a lot of regrets.

Courtesy photo

Tom Southworth produces timber frames in his water-powered saw mill.

"Cyber Seder" challenges traditional Passover ritual

By, Greg Mascolo
Features Editor

Technology just keeps bringing the world closer. Its unbelievable what they can do these days. First, it was the simple telephone, then television. Suddenly, the internet revolutionized communication. The information highway. Everyone's got a home page. Does every one really need a home page? Apparently... but somehow I'm still surviving without one. Pretty soon they'll probably replace money with electronic credits. If anyone's seen the new Val Kilmer movie The Saint or that movie with Sandra Bullock called The Net you know that you don't even need to leave your house anymore to do your banking, go shopping, or order a take-out pizza- not to mention wreak havoc with national security.

In the spirit of the season, from the what will they think of next file, I was reading Monday's New York Times when I came across a revolutionary concept. Someone was hard at work on a program for a seder on the internet. Just think of it: "Cyber Seder". Seder as we know it will be revolutionized. Think of the consequences:

No more hassle of travel- No more getting everyone together from all over the country, or the world. That's time and expense that can thankfully be avoided.

"This year at home, next year in Israel."- Why wait! Every year can be in Israel. It can be at the Wailing Wall if you want. I know for the last fifiteen years you've all been promising "next year in Israel." Well, no more. With "Cyber Seder" its as easy as the double-click of a mouse.

The search for the afikomen- you think its hard to find the afikomen in your house? Try finding it hidden somewhere in the vast infinty of cyberspace. Reported favorite hiding places include www.Elijah.com and Environmentalist's for the Preservation of Moses' Red Sea. You'll be begging grandpa to put it back under Aunt Elsa like last year!

Elijah- You think Elijah's been keeping up on modern technology? You betcha! Watch grandmother jump when Elijah suddenly floats across the screen and drains his cup (feature costs extra).

Pictorial Narration- unarguably, the biggest benefit of cyber seder. No longer is there the need for those clumsy hagadah's. Now one can read along by following the bouncing matzot ball (from right to left of course). Moses never looked so good parting the Red Sea! Coincidentally, who knew Moses really looked that much like Charlton Heston. But there could be some drawbacks too. Do we really want to see

(see Cyber, page 14)

CAMPUS VOICES

What is one reason students should not vote for you?

■ "I'm not applying to law school."
— *Bryan Stratton '98*

■ "Because I'm shorter... an easy 5 inches."
— *A.J. Poor '98*

■ "I can't save Ferris."
— *Chris Vaughn '98*

■ "I accepted money from Chinese businessmen for my campaign."
— *Alyson Cucci '98*

Compiled by Aditya M. Raval and Sherry Schwarz

Photos by Ethan French

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Bruce highlights lighter side of Middlebury's Passover seder

(continued from page 11)
read by different people. Much of the reading is responsive, so the person who is the leader reads and then everyone else responds. At every seder table is more symbolism than an entire hour of Professor Pack talking about Freud, Oedipus, and Shakespeare. First you have your matzos (unleavened bread resmbling very large Saltine cracker), which represents the bread the Jews had to eat because they didn't have time to wait for it to rise as they made haste out of Israel. Then there is a seder plate with the following: shankbone, a symbol of the lamb sacrificed in the Temple in Jerusalem, a roasted egg, a symbol of the "festival offering" brought to the Temple on different holidays, the moror (bitter herbs), a symbol of the bitterness of slavery, the charoses (a sort of chunky apple paste) made to look like the mortar that the Jewish peolpe used to build the pyramids, and finally the karpas (parsley) which is to remind us of the bounty of spring. Most of this stuff is left untouched. The karpas, however, is dipped in salty water (symbol of tears) and eaten. The matzos, too, is eaten, and a piece of it becomes what is known as the Afikomen, or the dessert. A big cracker. Not such a good treat you say? Except that the Afikomen is hidden, and at the end of the seder the children search for it, and the lucky kid that finds it gets a buck or two from Uncle Murray (okay Unle Murray wasn't at Middlebury's seder.)

After the part of the seder explaining this symbolism comes the Four Questions about why Passover is diffent from all other nights. This part is usually read by the youngest child who can read. At the Middlebury seder Neil Manus, Laurie Manus's '99 ten year old brother read the questions, both in Hebrew and in English. Four cups of wine — oh yes, wine — are supposed to be drunk symbolizing joy and thanksgiving. My glass was only 1/4 full and I noticed that the table across the way had some tall boys. Now I don't like to skimp on joy and thanks-giving, so I asked the waitress, "Mam, think I could get a little more of the Manishevitz if you don't mind?" And she gave me this little splash and a smile that was more sneer than anything else. She didn't understand the importance of wine — she must not have been Jewish.

Speaking of goyim, I was sitting at a table with Pauls Toutanghi '98. Later I asked him how he liked his first Passover. "Well," said Pauls "I had to leave early so all I got to eat was the parsely dipped in tears and the gefilte fish." When I asked him how he liked the gefilte fish, he replied: "Tasted like an eraser. Now its a shame Pauls had to leave early, because the best part of Passover, aside from the feeling of family togetherness and the finding of the Afikomen, is the food. Don't let Pauls steer you wrong. Gefilte fish made by any bona fide Jewish grandmother is good, especially with some horseradish. And, some aunthentic matzoh ball soup is some of the best stuff around. The fare at the Middlebury seder wasn't too bad considering it was served for a large group, but it wasn't anything like my Omi's briscuit.

Glossary of Seder Terms

1. Haggadah: Passover Prayer Book

2. Matzos: unleavened bread, looks like large Saltine cracker

3.Manishevitz -very sweet red wine with a low alcohol content usually served to children at a seder

4. Goyim: mildly insulting Yiddish word for non-Jewish people

5. Gefilte fish: white fish all ground up and served in a sort of oval shape. Tastes bland, but quite good with horseradish

6. Matzos ball soup: usually a chicken based soup, often with carrots that has one or more balls of ground matzos balls. (If you have never eaten this before Do Not Eat At Proctor. Wait till you visit a real Jewish deli or the house of a Jewish friend)

And now a little Jewish trivia:

Who is the only Jewish player in the NBA?

Answer: Danny Schayes of the Orlando Magic.

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'Cyber Seder' alters Passover tradition

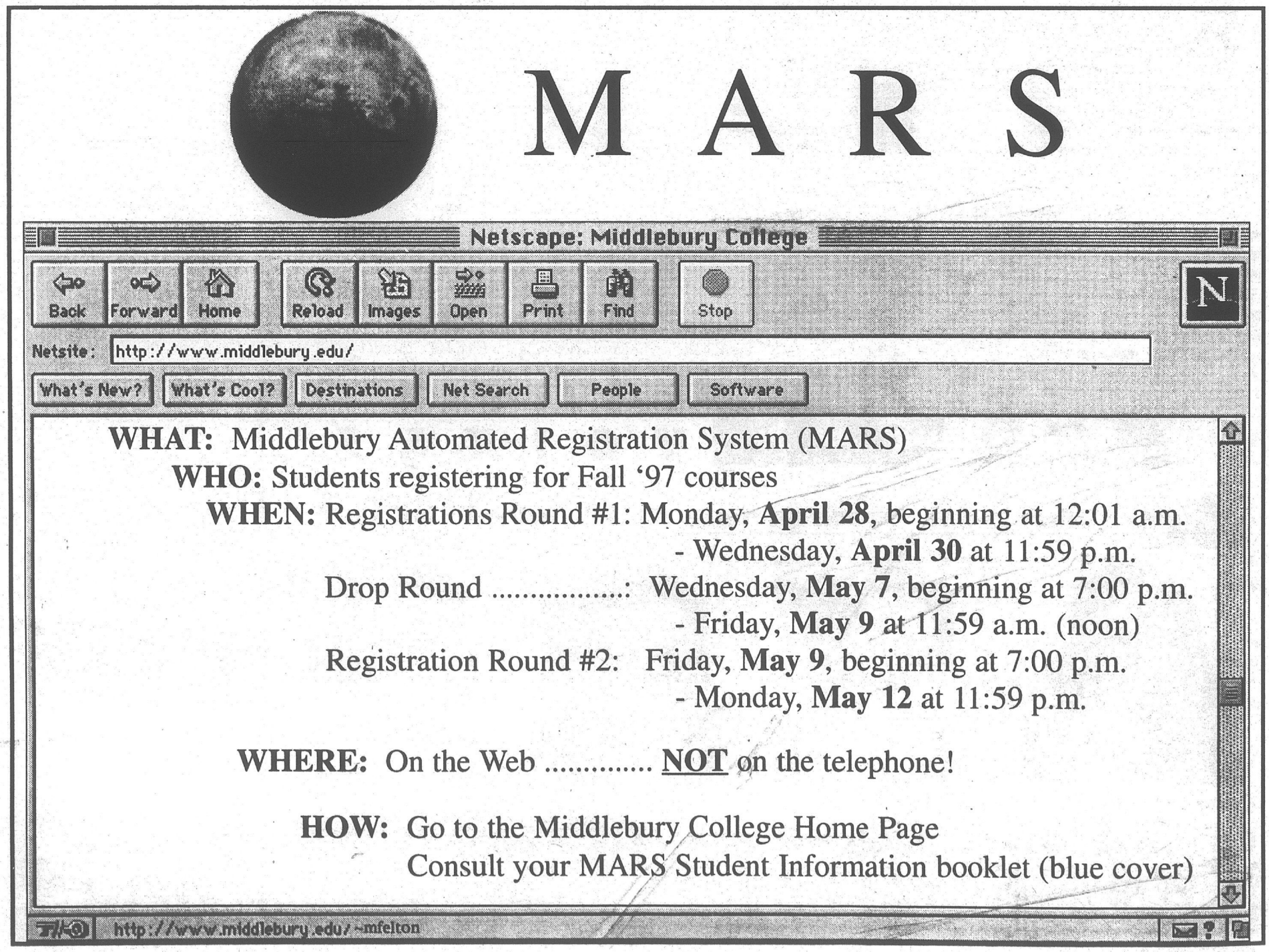
(continued from page 13)
how Gifilta fish (the Jewish mystery meat) is made. I know the question we've all be wondering is what's really in it anyway. Let me tell you, there's something to be said for the mystery of religion.

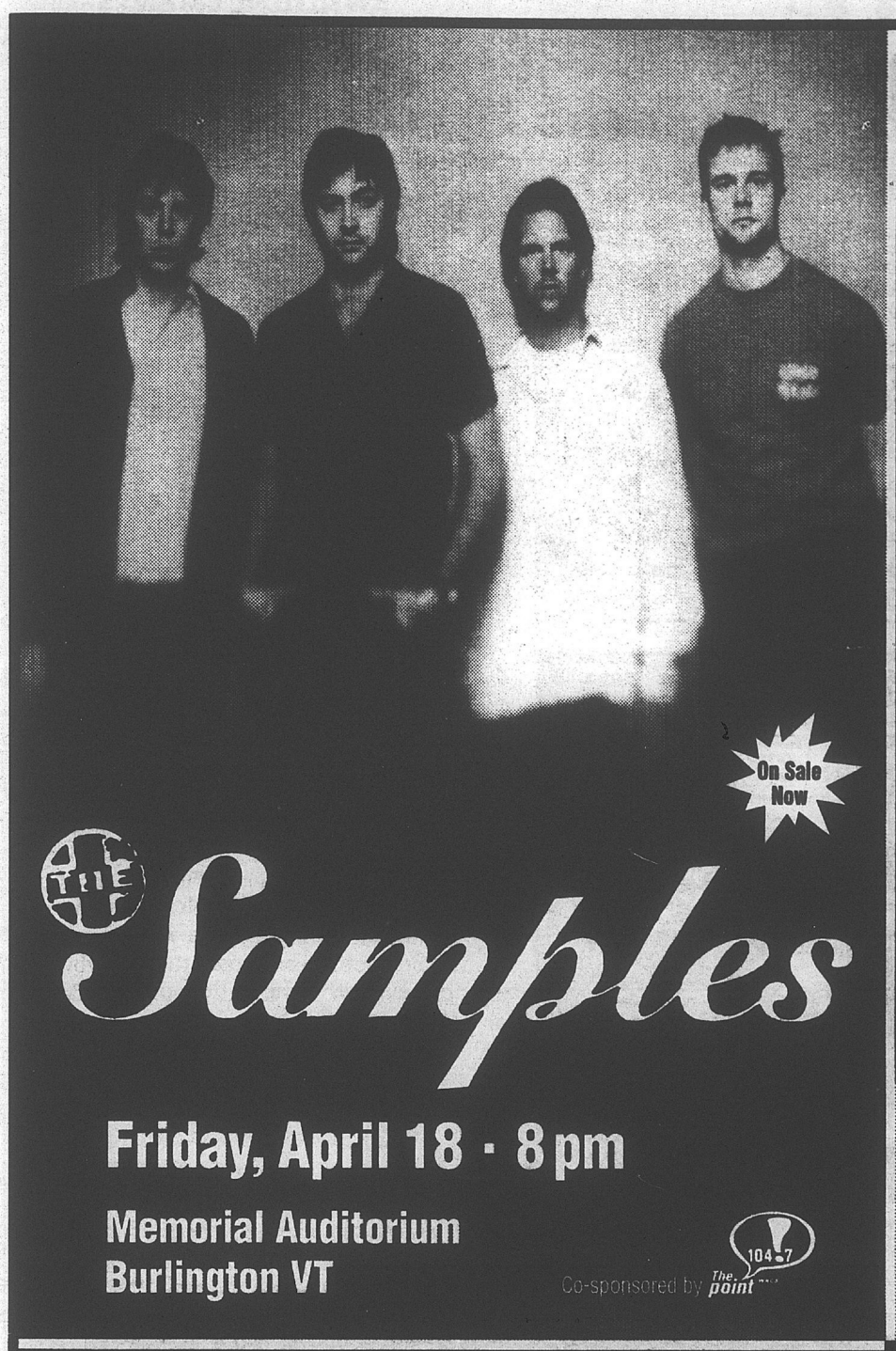
Twenty-four hour seder support service- understandably, not every pious Jew is a computer science major and Elijah can only guide each of us so much. That's why Rabbis Leibowitz and Goldstien are there to answer the tough technical questions. But more importantly, they'll be there to arbitrate in the inevitable disputes between Grandpa and Uncle Joshua- why are their only four questions? Did the Angel of Death actually kill all the firstborn Egyptians? What does that character mean? Was it forty-five minutes or an hour since we put money in the parking meter?

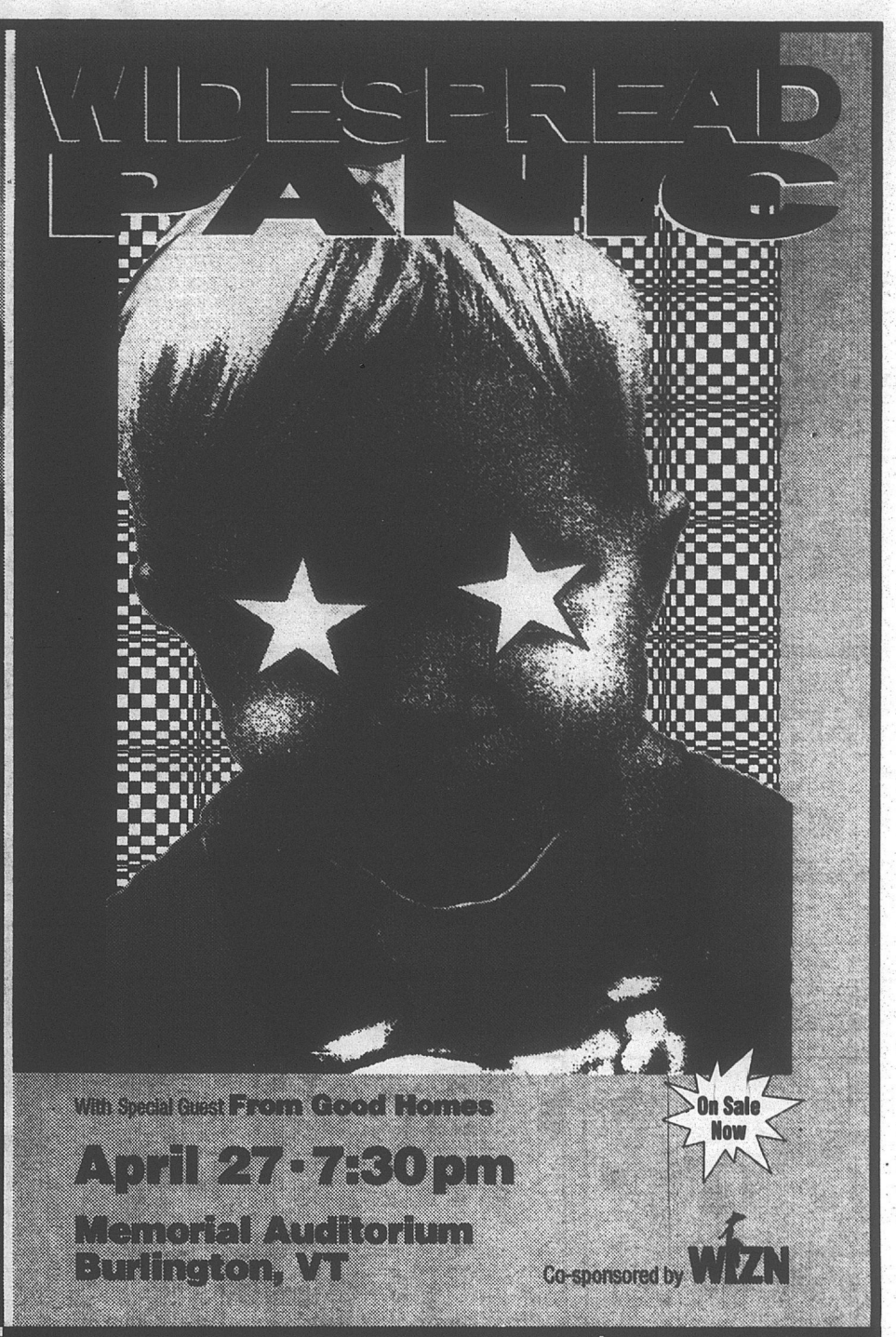
Jewish humor joke room- the deluxe "Cyber Seder" package comes complete with a little Passover humor to help celabrate the feast. My favorite: "What does a Jewish lion say?- maror!"

The Four cups of wine- okay, that's where I draw the line. No cyber wine nonsense here. Its my one chance a year to see my normally tea-tolling relatives a little bit tipsy. Anyway, I think the elders were definetely on to something with this wine thing- scientific studies have shown that red wine is good for the heart. And after four cups, the heart's beating stronger than ever.

As Passover fades into history this year, pause to reflect on the tradition of the seder. Because by this time next year, the good old days of cozy, homespun seders may have vanished. The internet's been revolutionizing everything, from corporate conferences to thousand year-old religions. Who's to say what's next? Reportedly, Islamic religious leaders are up in arms. The next project, cyber-trip to Mecca - no camels, no pilgrimage, nothing- all in a few giggaseconds. Just think of all the time we've been wasting by actually going there!







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Doonesbury

BY G.B. TRUDEAU

MOMMY! IS THAT YOU?
HI, BABY! WHAT'RE YOU DOING OUT HERE?
4-21
SHE'S ATTENDING MY WEDDING RECEPTION, J.J.
OH, HI, MIKE... SORRY ABOUT ALL THIS...
LISTEN, COULD YOU THROW DOWN A LINE OR SOMETHING? THIS WATER IS INCREDIBLY COLD, YOU KNOW? MIKE?
HELLO?
IT'S NO USE! WE'LL NEVER FIND THEM IN THIS FOG!
AW... TOO BAD.
HEY!
GO DOONESBURY @http://www.doonesbury.com
WELL, I HOPE YOU'RE HAPPY, J.J.! EVEN WITHOUT PLANNING IT, YOU MANAGED TO TRASH MY WEDDING DAY!
4-22
LISTEN, MICHAEL, I'M NOT EXACTLY THRILLED ABOUT THIS MYSELF! I JUST LOST A $200,000 SCULPTURE, NOT TO MENTION AN UNINSURED BARGE!
IT'S ALWAYS ABOUT YOU, ISN'T IT, J.J.! IT'S ALWAYS ABOUT YOUR SACRIFICE, YOUR PAIN!
WHAT ABOUT MY PAIN, MAN? CAN'T ALL THIS WAIT UNTIL AFTER THE RESCUE?
RESCUE? THERE'S TALK OF A RESCUE?
J.J.? IT'S ME, ZONK!
HEY, ZONK...
THEY'RE LOWERING THE RESCUE CRAFT! HANG IN THERE!
I'LL TRY...
4-23
YOU OKAY?
I GUESS SO...
I'M OKAY, TOO, MAN!
SO IS THIS ONE OF THOSE ART THINGS YOU DO?
NO, IT'S REAL LIFE.
SO WHAT ARE YOU SERVING UP THERE, MAN? SMELLS GREAT!
GOD, THAT WATER WAS COLD! I THOUGHT WE WERE HEADED FOR HYPOTHERMIA CITY!
4-24
HEY! BOOPSIE! MARK! B.D.! THE GANG'S ALL HERE! YOU GUYS KNOW ZEKE, RIGHT? MY BOYFRIEND?
UH... GUYS? BUDDIES? HELLO?
PSST! UGLY VIBE, MAN! LET'S SWIM FOR IT!
OKAY, EVERYONE! TIME FOR TOASTS!
OKAY, LET'S SEE, WHERE WERE WE BEFORE ALL THE EXCITEMENT?
I THINK I WAS SAYING SOMETHING ABOUT THIS BEING THE PERFECT DAY AND HOW ... NOTHING COULD RUIN IT...
THAT STILL STANDS, AND THE REASON IS SITTING RIGHT HERE NEXT TO ME - THIS REMARKABLE WOMAN, RADIANT, WISE, WITTY...
4-25
OH, PLEASE. SHE'S A TEENY-BOPPER.
I KNOW! IS SHE EVEN WEARING ANYTHING UNDER THAT DRESS?
I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE THIS! A MIDDLE-AGED MAN MARRYING THAT... THAT... CHILD!
MOM..
4-26
I MEAN, DOESN'T MIKE REALIZE HOW PATHETIC HE LOOKS? SOME VAINGLORIOUS BOOMER TRYING TO HOLD ON TO...
MOM!
WHAT, HONEY?
SIT DOWN, MOM! AND BE QUIET!
HE'S POISONED HER AGAINST ME... MY OWN CHILD!
WE'RE NOT GOING TO GET ANYTHING TO EAT, ARE WE?

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WOMEN DO A LOT FOR MIDDLEBURY! Here's a chance for you to recognize the contributions of a faculty member, staff member, and a graduating senior. Faculty nominate faculty, staff nominate staff, and students nominate students. The Chellis House Women's Resource Center is asking for a written paragraph or page nomination by April 30. Send to Mary Duffy, c/o Chellis House.

REMINDER: Students are required to vacate their dormitory rooms within 24 hours of thier last exam. This regulation will be strictly enforced in order that Custodial Services may prepare for the housing of parents during Commencement Weekend and for Reunion Weekend. The only students who will be allowed to remain in the dormitories after the deadline are graduating seniors and those with permission from the Student Activities Office to stay because of involvement in Commencement activities. A fine of $100 will be imposed on those students who do not leave within the 24 hour period of their last scheduled exam.

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OVERHEARD

"Nobody turned in Overheards this week."

"That sucks."

-One Production Manager to the other

Playful 'Tempest' enthralls audience

By Maciej Ceglowski,
Staff Writer

Last week's delightful production of "The Tempest," an adaptation from Shakespeare directed by Cara Gabriel '97, comes across at first blush as a summer-camp production of the highest caliber. The cartoonish costumes and set, the audience participation, the silent-movie background music and a whiff of ham in the acting all combine with the lightheartedness of amateur theater at its best. There is no mistaking the show for amateur theater, however, since even the best summer camp couldn't equal the production in its consistency. Everything runs smoothly, the players never hesitate, and the show is remarkably well paced. Moreover, the quality of the performances and the complexity of the whole enterprise point to a solid foundation of professionalism hiding under a whimsical superstructure. The audience gets the best of both worlds, enjoying the fun of carefree theater without having to endure the embarrassing snafus and weak spots that usually accompany it.

In her "Director's Note," Gabriel explains that in adapting the work she wanted to "make the world of Shakespeare accessible to children." Her adaptation is indeed easy to follow, with many visual cues to supplement the occasionally difficult dialogue, and a running time of under an hour to accommodate young attention spans. The plot is clear and well presented — Prospero (Barry Nelson '00), Duke of Milan, is stranded on an island with his daughter Miranda (Jennifer Gelb '97), the fairy Ariel (Yseult Tyler '99), and the monster Caliban (Andrew Ritter '97), through the machinations of his usurping brother Antonio (Alex Cranmer '99). Conjuring up a tempest many years into his exile, Prospero wrecks a passing ship carrying his malefactor along with King Alfonso (Justin Shipman '98) and his retinue. All are stranded on the island, and a mischievous Prospero orchestrates a whole series of misadventures and meetings before everything is happily settled at the end of the play.

The performances are very strong, in several cases outstanding. Ritter is wonderful as the bitter and decrepit Caliban, eliciting shrieks from the younger viewers and using his high-octane acting style to maximum advantage. Nelson plays Prospero very capably, with a constant mischievous twin-

(see Tempest, page 20)

Percy Hill

Courtesy Photo

Members of the talented musical group Percy Hill *entertained an energetic crowd in Ross Lounge last Saturday Night.*

Guillette's 'Look Up Casually' entices audiences with the view

By Marika Hoe
Staff Writer

While looking up casually, the audience was amazed to see the witty sophistication of Christina Guillette's ('97) senior 700 dance concert. If anything, "Look Up Casually" was a phenomenal choreographic accomplishment for Guillette; certainly not some casual walk in the park.

Modern dance is often imagined as a stark, unattainable art form where people sigh and say in perplexed intonations, "I don't get it." Well, what's not to get? Guillette has made her movement so accessible to audiences that they are free to laugh at the playfulness or stare in breathless wonder at the dancers' rich grace. If you cannot giggle at people who are sliding through heaps of recycled paper shreds and being dragged across the stage like janitorial brooms sweeping up the shredded refuse, it is probably because there is no prerecorded laugh track to follow. The comedy is not blatantly obvious to us like traditional American sitcoms. The dancers do not grin or make googly eyes to entertain.

The movement itself evokes a witty humor that any intelligent audience member can understand. As a result, everyone is too busy smiling and laughing to gripe with the supposed difficulties of modern dance.

Alex Fuller

Christina Guillette's senior dance project was performed last weekend.

Said Guillette, "It was worthwhile and I'm so happy with the audience's response. I had no expectations and the dancers did beautifully."

In the last piece particularly, Kim Havens '99, Melissa Loeben '98 and Shelby Johnson '99 performed a stunning trio with intricate interweaving of duets and solos. Not only were the dancers able to perform the complex choreography on a high technical level but also on a personal one, dancing with the utmost respect for the work and giving breath to what could have been a technically impressive but cold piece.

The entire 40-minute performance was stunning, with the only disappointment being that it ended so quickly. After Friday night's concert, dancer Julieanne Neal '99 expressed her admiration and faith in Guillette: "I always felt that the pieces were under control because Chrissy has a secure confidence about her. In rehearsals, she was always calm and collected."

If Guillette was anything but confident, calm, and collected, it would have been difficult (most likely impossible) to choreograph a show of that magnitude in eight weeks. Said Guillette, "I specifically stayed out of my own pieces because it was much easier to choreograph without myself involved. Since I didn't have much time it was better just to watch and direct."

The opening solo by Amy Larsen '97 immediately proved Guillette's choreographic talent. Larsen's long, thin limbs created strong lines as she moved in conjunction to the improvised violin music of Karen Quinn '97. Both Larsen and Quinn had solo opportunities where each displayed her own artistic abilities. Larsen's own breath provided the music as she danced with elongated legs and arms and swept across the stage. Quinn's impressive musical expertise varied from melancholic, rich notes to light, staccato plucking of the violin strings.

Said Quinn, "I've watched Chrissy's dance career for all four years at Middlebury and am really proud of her and happy to be a part of this show. She's the one who first introduced me to improvisational music .... She has always been an inspiration."

Both the dancers and audiences expressed their utmost respect for Guillette and her impressive quality of work. There was nothing superficial or catchy about the performance, and though there were no flamboyant cancans or flashing strobe lights, the concert entertained with its simple witticism and beauty.

If you looked up casually, you might have been overwhelmed by the quick episode of artistic delight that viewers experienced this past Friday and Saturday night. If you attended the performance with a casual attitude, you might have been amazed to see sophistication of the choreography and the dancers' ability to give energy and grace to every movement. Look up casually, but never carelessly, and you will be surprised at what you find.

'Sling Blade' relies on clichés, proves tedious

By Andrea Yevuta
Staff Writer

"You seem like a thinker. You seem always to be deep in thought. So what are you thinking right now?"
"I'm thinking I could take some more of these potaters."

Movie Review

Sling Blade
Billy Bob Thornton

First, there was Dustin Hoffman in "Rain Man," then, Tom Hanks as "Forrest Gump," and now we have "Sling Blade's" Billy Bob Thornton. Why is the Academy so fascinated with the idiot savant? Just as playing a prostitute is likely to gain an actress an Academy Award nomination, mental retardation seems to be a good bet for actors. Hoffman and Hanks won Oscars for their performances while Thornton was nominated, eventually losing to Geoffrey Rush from "Shine," himself playing a man overcoming a mental handicap.

The common thread here seems to be that when we see the world through the eyes of someone who has very basic conceptions of right and wrong, we are likely to both sympathize with and admire that person. Envy is perhaps a better word — if only we could dismiss the complications that invade our own actions, we, too, could act as

(see Thornton, page 21)

Ficky Stingers!

Name

Eva Lewis' production of "Ficky Stingers" *was performed last weekend in the Center for the Arts. The cast included Stephanie Janssen '99, Katherine Inglis '98, Clark Freeman '99 and Athena Fliakos '99.*

Seniors artwork explores many mediums, themes

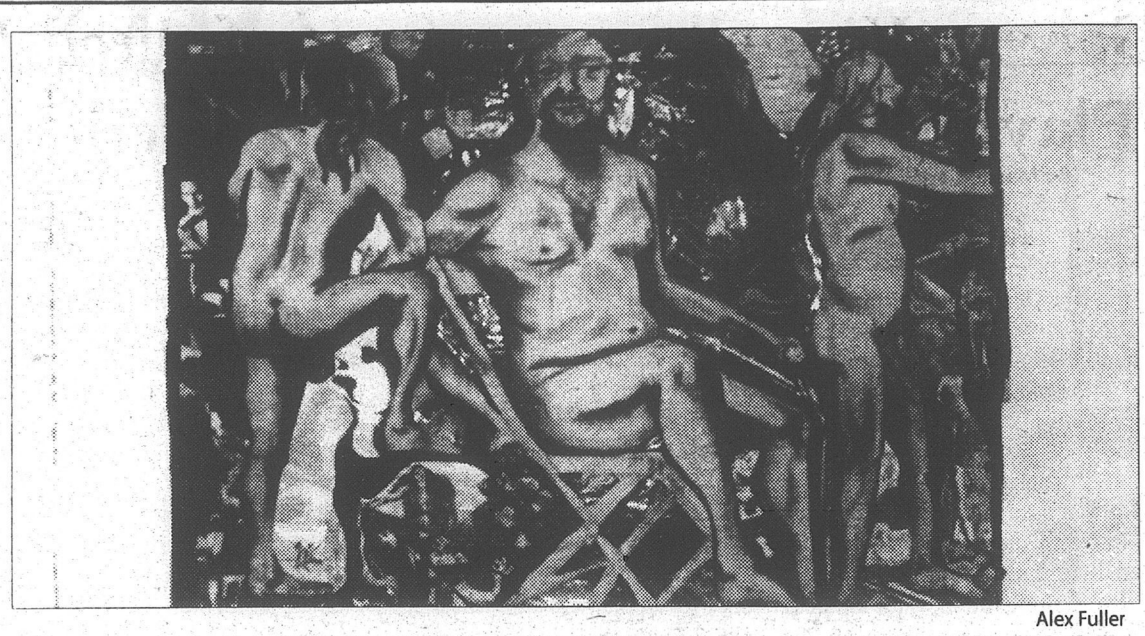
By Natasha Kobran
Staff Writer

The first of the senior art exhibits has been on display at Johnson Memorial Art Building since April 18. Three senior art students are showing their work in this show: Mia DeMattei, Katherine Kulis and Clifford Blackwell. The artists' work can be found on the second and third floors arranged along the walls and in the gallery. This work is the fruit of a semester's labor. Not only do all three artists work with different media, but each artist has a very unique style of approaching his work.

Mia DeMattei works mostly with watercolors and hand-painted collographs (a printmaking technique). Her show has many different depictions of scenes viewed from her window in downtown Middlebury. These lovely watercolors and prints capture the quiet atmosphere of the old Vermont town. She uses beautiful concordant colors with much variation and delightful compositions — all of which draw your eye to every detail. Besides the townscapes there are a number of still-lives, mostly done in watercolor. In these DeMattei makes a study of certain objects, changing their position and color in each picture to give them life. One can see how an object can be perceived in many different ways, as the size and color changes drastically alter the mood of the painting. My favorite of the many pictures is an introspective self-portrait done with graphite and watercolor on gesso paper. A contemplative mood is created by use of cool colors.

Clifford Blackwell works with many different methods of intaglio printmaking. His work shows a mixture of abstract and figural images done mostly in black and white (with the exception of two one-color prints). Although most of his prints are quite abstract, a number of them take their reference from photographs of friends. In his prints, Blackwell explores the real and the imagined. He uses both powerful — almost reckless — lines next to intricately detailed and delicate renderings of buildings, people, and other various objects. I would venture to say that his more abstract work is the most exciting,

(see Senior art page 21)



Alex Fuller

A series of nude portraits by Kulis is on display at Johnson. Exhibit also features works by Blackwell and DeMattei.

Takacs Quartet renders magnificent performance

By Damjan de Krnjevic-Miskovic
Staff Writer

The Takacs String Quartet performed in the Middlebury College Center for the Arts Concert Hall this past Friday. Founded in 1975 by four students of the prestigious Franz Liszt Academy in Buda-Pest, it has established itself as one of the world's best quartets both musically and academically (its members are tenured at the University of Colorado and at the Guildhall School of Music in London).

Karoly Schanz, the second violinist, and Andras Fejer, the cellist, are founding members, while Edward Dusinberre, the first violinist, and Roger Tapping, the violist, were appointed later on.

The two masterworks performed were the String Sextet no. 1 in B-flat Major, Op. 18 by Johannes Brahms, and the Cello Quintet in C Major, Op. 163, D. 956 by Franz Schubert. The Takacs Quartet was joined by second violist Erika Eckert and by second cellist Judith Glyde in the performance of the Brahms Sextet and by Glyde in the Quintet.

The Takacs String Quartet played with a rarely seen, almost organic magnificence and elegance. All the musicians were sharp, focused, and clearly enjoying themselves. They played with a visible sign of absolute trust in their colleagues and in the composers. Mr. Dusinberre is annoyingly young, fulfilling the natural leader role that is absolutely necessary for a superior quartet to maintain its edge. Mr. Schranz's excited playing almost drove him off his seat several times, while the sound of his instrument was the paradigm of serenity, especially during the memorable Rondo (poco allegretto e grazioso) in the Brahms sextet, where his mastery was fully allowed to shine.

The highlight of the Shubert was, without a doubt, the Adagio. The celebrated pianist Artur Rubinstein has requested that this piece be played at his funeral. That is how good it is. Perhaps this Adagio is the best piece of its kind ever written. Regardless, the Takacs played it superbly, with religious gentleness. That sound was at the same time meant to calm the furious and excite the lethargic. Audience members felt compelled to consume the music. Many edged forward, some breathed quite heavily. The final section of the Schubert, the Allegretto, ended with vigorous and excited playing. Before they even finished, some stood and applauded. One Middlebury College professor, who is a harsh critic of anything less than perfection, rose to lead the ovation. That was how good these musicians were. Only the Tokyo String Quartet, playing here next March, will have the opportunity to compete with this performance.

Courtesy photo

The Takacs String Quartet performed in the concert hall last week.

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Pavement CD interests major labels

By Sam Folk-Williams
Staff Writer

The two most important bands in the American indie pop/prog-rock scene, Pavement and Built To Spill, have both just released new albums marking the major-label debut of these long-time independent bands. Pavement's album, *Brighten the Corners*, is on the Capitol Records label, and Built To Spill's *Perfect From Now On*, is on Warner Bros. Surprisingly, both bands are continuing their experimental, non-linear, noisy tradition: something usually not found on these two corporate giants.

CD Review
Brighten the Corners
Pavement

Pavement has consistently been more productive over the years than Built To Spill; *Brighten the Corners* is their fifth full-length album since their seminal debut, *Slanted and Enchanted*, in '92, and it is impressive. Putting together all kinds of noises, from heavy distortion chords to acoustic melodies, with front-man Steven Malchmus' naive and childish vocals and poetry, produces some incredibly thick and pleasing songs that are of a special kind of quality not common with typical American pop bands.

Pavement has always been a phenomenon that has to be experienced; they are unique, they stand alone, they are responsible for the shape American indie-pop has taken over the last six years, and *Brighten the Corners* is their most accessible record yet. It combines everything excellent about Pavement's previous albums, but it lacks that inexplicable Pavement characteristic that forces an unwilling hand to shut off the stereo half-way through an album, not because it isn't good, but simply because no more can be taken. Pavement's music can be so dense at times that it can take effort to listen to; this is both a compliment to their level of musical sophistication, and a deterrent to the listening experience. It's surprising that such a mouthful can be said about a band who, until *Brighten the Corners*, supposedly never rehearsed together before entering the studio to record an album. Songs like "Stereo," "Transport is Arranged," and "Type Slowly," are elegant and beautiful while at the same time rough, heavy, and powerful. Lyrics like "One of us is a cigar-stand and one of us is a lovely blue incandescent guillotine," are typical. "This slap is a gift because your cheeks have lost their luster" is one of the more provocative lines from "Blue Hawaiian." Altogether, *Brighten The Corners* is a perfect record, providing a welcome addition to any Pavement fan's collection as well as a wonderful place for the uninitiated to enter the world that Pavement creates.

Built To Spill, masterminded by singer/song-writer (and the only consistent band member) Doug Martsch, is also a brilliant and profound band on the American indie scene, but has never experienced anywhere near the popularity of Pavement. This is partly because there are often many years between BTS albums, and partly because most BTS songs are very inaccessible. Furthermore, their two previous albums are very inconsistent, featuring several excellent and viscerally enjoyable songs, as well as many that sort of fall short. *Perfect From Now On*, however, is just as the title suggests: the first wholly perfect and artistically mature BTS album. Martsch has wonderfully combined his high-pitched, wandering, stream-of-consciousness vocals and tracey guitars with the

(see New CD, page 20)

Galway Kinnell creates 'nest of shreds' through moving poems

By David Keeling
Arts Editor

In his poem "The Man in the Chair," Galway Kinnell writes, "I wrote, and as I did I allowed / to be audible in the room only / the

Book Review

Imperfect Thirst

Galway Kinnel

scritches of the pen nib, a sound / like a rat crawling around in the dark interior of a wall, making a nest of shreds." It is this "nest of shreds" that the poems of his collection, "Imperfect Thirst" (Houghton Mifflin, 1994) create; they are the snippets of joy, tatters of regret, and scraps of melancholy in which he finds comfort and hope.

Of his pen, Kinnell writes, "Its work is memory," and many of his poems may be said to be explorations into the depths of his past. The reader sees him as a child struggling to understand his mother's affair with another man in "Showing My Father Through Freedom" ("...my mother and John talking while I sat,/was that a secret? Suddenly I was like/somebody propped up in a hospital bed,/who can see, hear, almost understand,/and is unable to speak"), as an adult coping with his father's death, and as a teacher wrestling with academia. More than a few of the poems brim with regret, as in "The Cellist," when he thinks of "the dreary" within him and "the disparity/between all the tenderness I've received/and the amount I've given...." Kinnell's regret is perhaps best vocalized in "Flies," in which he writes, "I think I have a fly inside me./It drones through me,/at three A.M., looking for what stinks,/the more stinking the better, a filth heap/old or new, some regret, or guilt, or humiliation,/and finds it, and feeds, waking me,/and I live it again."

Death plays a major role in Kinnell's collection. He grapples especially with the death of his father: "When my father was three years dead and dying/away more quickly than other dead fathers do," begins his poem, "Picnic." Other poems reflect his meditations on death, his mixed feelings surrounding it, and his experience with it as his opponent.

The poems do not, however, devote all of their words to remorse; many of the works contemplate the simple joys of life — the "silver lining," as it were. For instance, in "The Night," he writes of the ecstacy and comfort of the connection between lovers, how the two have been "lying/all night in the same curve," and he imagines that when morning comes, "They hear the clangs of a church clock. Why only nine?/When they have been lying on this bed since before the earth began."

Additionally, the poems often seem detailed observations and studies of various aspects of his life and the things around him. "Driving West," for example, is composed of reflections which come together in the end: "Oil is a form of waiting." "The idea of the airplane subverts earthly life." "A lightning bolt is made entirely of error." These 'one-liner'-type observations emerge elsewhere in Kinnell's work, and seem to be an integral part of his style.

Occasionally his poems dip into the peculiar. In one he writes about being a hitchhiker, and how the car in which he rides hits a bum — "At the roadside,/in the glow of a streetlight, was a body./A man was bending over it.../The man stood and shouted at us, 'Forget it!/He gets hit all the time!' Oh./A bum. We were happy to forget it." In another, "Holy Sh*t," he provides over three pages of quotations from such illustrious figures as Plato, Innocent III, Chaucer, Martin Luther, and Buddhaghosa, all on the subject of human bowel movement. Eventually he brings to these quotations his own, rather meditative poem on the same subject.

Whatever and whenever he writes, whether on the toilet seat or aside the coffin, Galway Kinnell's work stirs with profound introspection and perspicacious observation. Evocative and always intimate, he shares with the reader his insights into human life and emotion, never afraid to put his own life under the microscope for the reader's benefit. If he is to be criticized for anything, it is perhaps for his occasional use of what seems excessively elusive scientific jargon and Latinate terminology. On the whole though, the ideas and feelings of the collection reach out through the words to pull the reader closer, to show the solace to be found within the "nest of shreds" he has stitched together.

Arts Smarts

Lectures

Thursday, April 24

4:30 p.m.
Patricia Tillman, sculptor. Tillman will speak about her art. She combines architectural and human form in psychologically charged sculptures which express her views about relationships.
Johnson 304

Friday, April 25

12 p.m.
Art a la Carte Gallery Talk: Student Video Productions. Ted Perry will discuss the work on view.
Arts Center Gallery 158

Sunday, April 27

7:30 p.m.
John Morton '68. Morton will read from his novel in progress and present highlights from his Vermont Public Radio commentaries on sports and the outdoors.
Chateau Grand Salon

Movies

Friday, April 25

7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.
Earthweek Movie: "Microcosms."
Twilight Auditorium 101

7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.
"Mission: Impossible." The cult television series turned into a sleek, superbly crafted movie. Tom Cruise plays the lead.
Admission: $1. Dana Auditorium

Saturday, April 26

4 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
"The Usual Suspects." An acclaimed heist thriller shaped in the noir manner around flashbacks, dark secrets, and double-crosses. Five hoods are rounded up for a police line-up and grilled. Gabriel Byrne plays the crooked cop trying to go straight. Kevin Spacey, in an award-winning performance, plays Verbal, the suspect with a story.
Dana Auditorium

Sunday, April 27

7 p.m.
"The Deer Hunter." Sponsored by *Viewfinder*.
Dana Auditorium

Performances

Wednesday, April 23

8 p.m.
Student Concert: "The Snow Queen." Victoria Lomax plays the Snow Queen. Score is four vocalists and orchestra. Also "Sonnambulo," presented by Sara Hasan.
Arts Center Concert Hall

Thursday, April 24

7 p.m.
Musical Performance: "Side by Side." A musical revue including songs from various productions. Tickets: $5 General, $2 Students.
McCullough Floor

8 p.m.
Performance: "Stages." The story of a 21-year-old woman's struggle with breast cancer, this hilarious and hopeful one-act moves quickly through space and time without sacrificing its emotional appeal. Independent work of Jennifer Jackson for directing. Admission: $1.
Hepburn Zoo

8 p.m.
Voice Recital: Justin Weiss. An exploration of the mysterious aspects of human nature: hallucination, dreams, and the macabre. Accompanied by Evan Bennett on piano.
Arts Center Concert Hall

10 p.m.
Concert: Ael and Courtney. Singers/songwriters perform an evening of music.
Gifford Gamut Room

Friday, April 25

7 p.m.
Musical Performance: "Side by Side." (See Thursday listing for details.)

8 p.m.
Dance Concert: Kris Clarke '97 and Friends. Admission $4 General, $3 Faculty/Staff/Seniors, $2 Students.
Arts Center Dance Theater

8 p.m.
Performance: "Stages." (See Thursday listing for details.)

8 p.m.
Middlebury College Chamber Soloists. The group presents an evening of chamber music.
Arts Center Concert Hall

8 p.m.
Performance: "Boil." By Julia Jordan. Admission: $1
Arts Center Theater Rehearsal Hall 232

Saturday, April 26

2 p.m. and 7 p.m.
Musical Performance: "Side by Side." (See Thursday listing for details.)

7:30 p.m.
Concert: Mama Pajamas. Experience this CD-releasing concert with guest groups from Amherst. Admission: $2.
Ross Lounge 1

8 p.m.
"Boil." (See Friday listing for details.)

8 p.m.
"Stages." (See Thursday listing for details).

8 p.m.
Dance Concert: Kris Clarke '97 and Friends. (See Friday listing for details.)

8 p.m.
MCAB Spring Concert: "The Roots," with opener "From Good Homes" and Middlebury band, "Bujicle." Admission: $10 with ID, $12 General.
Pepin Gym

Sunday, April 27

3 p.m.
Concert: Brandon Doyle, French Horn.
Arts Center Concert Hall

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Geek-rock gods unleash compilation

By Ethan Marcotte
Staff Writer

Finally.

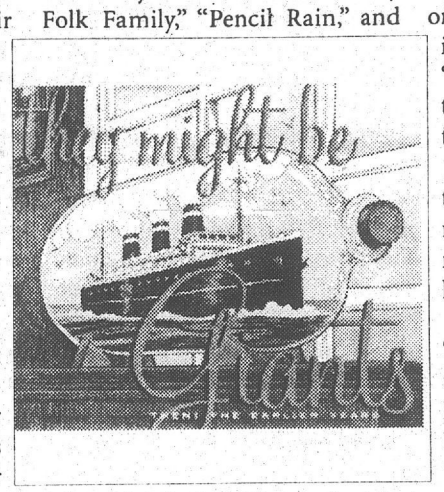
They Might Be Giants have at last seen fit to grace us with a compilation album. Available from Restless Records, the long-awaited "Then: The Earlier Years" is nothing short of a godsend from John Linnell and John Flansburgh, the deities of geek rock. From their marginally interesting 1982 debut as the two-man "El Groupo de Rock 'n' Roll" to their current five-instrument powerhouse, the Giants have maintained a philosophical, eclectic verve throughout six albums and countless singles. That wacky musical power is perfectly encapsulated by "Then."

Comprised of their two earliest albums — "They Might Be Giants" and "Lincoln" — and their first four EPs, the album tracks the genesis of the Johns' 10-year creative pilgrimage. From their earliest recordings, Linnell and Flansburgh have always pushed the envelope of musical convention and creativity. Often unfairly described as "gimmicky," the Giants' early eight-track recordings utilized everything from synthesized rhythm sections to accordions and

CD Review

Then: The Earlier Years
They Might Be Giants

answering machines. "Then" returns hard-core TMBG fans to such early favorites as "Hide Away Folk Family," "Pencil Rain," and



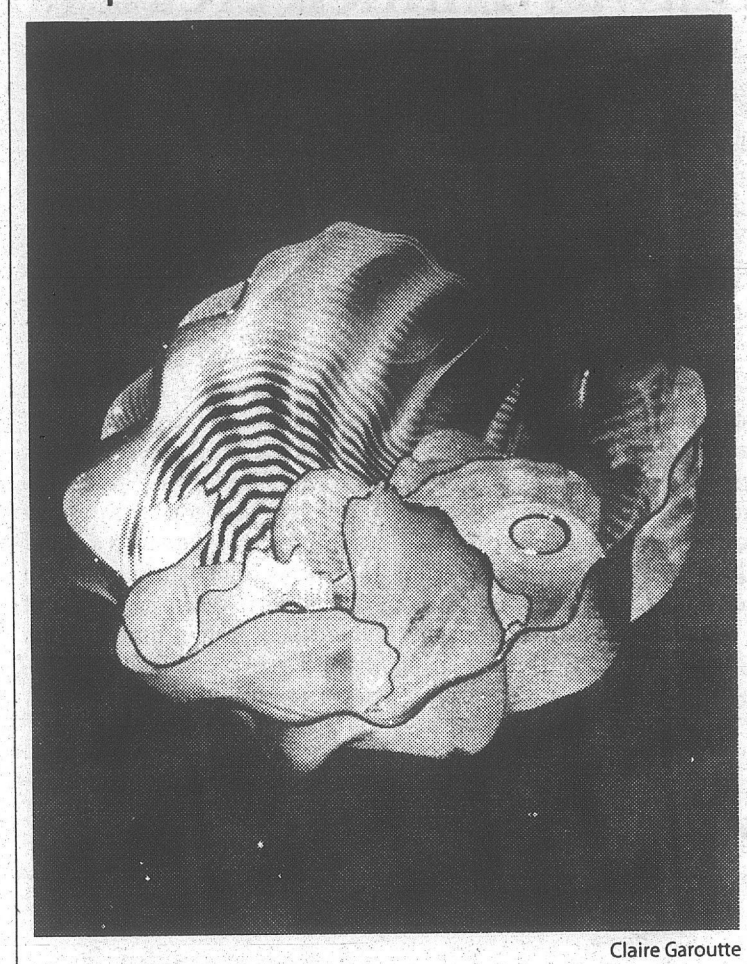
other hits that are transcribed in the thorough and hilarious liner notes, which are penned by Linnell and Flansburgh.

There are those who may hesitate before shelling out 30 bucks for the two Giants albums they may already own. This is where the true gold mine of "Then" should be considered: the bonus tracks. Nearly a third of the over seventy tracks of "Then" are devoted solely to previously unreleased material. To put it kindly, these new selections redefine "musical innovation." From a Greek translation of "Number Three" — described as "crappy" by one native speaker — to a recording of schoolchildren singing "Particle Man," these tracks are thoroughly entertaining, and anything but conventional.

These pseudo-musical selections only enhance the Giants' reputation as musically fearless, more so because they dared release them.

In their song "Number Three," They Might Be Giants maintain that they have "spent [their] whole life just digging up [their] music's shallow grave." With the release of "Then: The Earlier Years," it appears that Linnell and Flansburgh have tapped into a new and exciting vein that will keep them digging for years to come. Their Faithful fans will most likely follow them into whatever new and exciting depths are to be uncovered.

The Spirit of Seaforms



Claire Garoutte

Dale Chihuly's *colorful and buoyant seaforms, made of hand blown glass, are on display at the Museum of Art through August.*

'Tempest' adaptation emphasizes accessibility in Shakespeare

(continued from page 17)

kle in his eye, although his boyish looks make it hard for him to radiate authority. Gelb spends most of her time convincingly basking in the beauty of her fiancé, Prince Ferdinand (Justin Martin '00), whose performance is exquisite as long as he is not delivering his somewhat wooden lines.

At times the acting gets quite physical, with lots of movement and crawling around, but the company pulls it off gracefully. Yseult Tyler's self-choreographed rendition of Ariel is a good case in point, as is the long sequence between Ritter, Craig Bouchard '98, and Jeremy Knoll '98. Bethany Silva '98 and Alex Cranmer round out the cast, giving a lively performance despite Cranmer's quite noticeable lack of underwear, a situation one hopes will be remedied before the show is performed for schoolchildren.

One of the most striking elements of the show is the background music, composed and performed by Peter Nilsson '99. Nilsson draws on the silent movie tradition to provide a piano accompaniment that adds beautifully to the campy feel of the action onstage, as well as providing another gloss on the meaning of the lines. The music, lights, and dialogue work well as an integrated set, and one hopes they are easily transposable to a school environment. The costumes and set design (Erin Carr '00 and Lesli Stinger '97, respectively) also seem ready to make the transition, with simple expanses of color and cartoon-like set and costume elements that harmonize with the stated intention of simplifying Shakespeare without diminishing him.

Gabriel and her co-conspirators deserve to be lauded for their accomplishment. *The Tempest* is a timely, welcome reminder that theater at Middlebury can be a whole lot of fun. The show recognizes its limitations and plays to its strengths so well that it should definitely go on tour in the community, letting kids see and enjoy it. On a scale of Gimpel to ten, the show comes close to hitting double digits, and deserves its standing ovation.

New CD uninfluenced by major label

(continued from page 18)

crisp and surprisingly steady drums of Scott Plouf, as well as an incredibly effective cello and moog synthesizers. The resulting songs range from powerful, drawn-out (six to eight minutes), guitar-driven, non-structural compositions, to snap-like, crisp-edged pop tunes. On "Stop the Show" he actually (and impressively) combines both of these extremes into a single song.

In all, there are only eight songs that make up over an hour of music, an aspect of the album which lends some light to its density. While Pavement songs are emotionally dense, Built to Spill is dense very literally, and yet enjoyably.

As with all of Built to Spill's previous work, as well as Martsch's work with the Treepeople and the Halo Benders, the prevailing characteristic of *Perfect From Now On* is Martsch's simultaneously lighthearted and emotionally deep attitude about music. Where there seems to be a lot of thought and profound structure, there is really an impressive show of improvised and unprepared music with lyrics that Martsch may be making up as he goes along. However he does it, Doug Martsch is an extraordinary musician, and now that he is finally on a major label, maybe he can get the audience he deserves.

The ultimate irony behind these two new albums is that Pavement and Built to Spill practically invented the concept of indie rock, if not merely the connotations that go along with the term. The driving force behind the concept of indie rock is that these were bands who were not on major labels and therefore did not have to alter their music or sacrifice their artistic ideals, because they had no label executives to answer to and, most importantly, because they weren't doing it for the money, but rather for fun. Now that two of the biggest heroes of the indie world are actually on major labels, many old fans are finding ideological reasons to gripe, but the fact is that both these albums are excellent, and consistent with the bands' previous work. Whatever influence the major label is having, thankfully, is not apparent to the listener.

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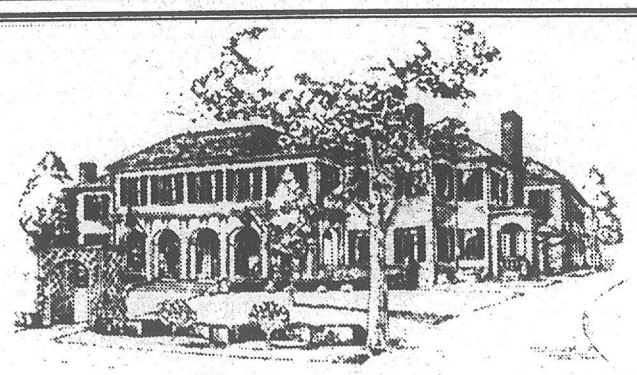

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Thornton's 'Sling Blade' exhibits flowing story, poor direction

(continued from page 17)
admirably as these characters. Still, one also tends to look at the solutions offered by these characters as too simple, too innocent. Such is the case with Karl Childers, the main character of "Sling Blade," played by Thornton.

Childers has been in a mental hospital since he was 12 years old, for the crime of killing his mother and her boyfriend with a "sling blade," a scythe-like instrument, when he sees them having sex. Now a grown man, he has realized the error of his ways, and is released to the small Arkansas town in which he was born and raised. He has no possessions save for a stack of books that he carries with him, including the Bible, which he describes by saying, "I don't understand all parts of it, but I reckon I understand some parts." What man or woman does not agree, to an extent, with this statement? The sometimes confusing, contradictory statements in the Bible give Karl a contorted sense of principle. For instance, he originally believes that his killing of his mother and her boyfriend was a just punishment for their crime of adultery.

Karl is something of a whiz at fixing small motors, and he is given a job at a local garage. He quickly befriends a young boy, Frank Wheatley (Lucas Black) and the boy's mother, Linda (Natalie Canderday), who invites Karl to stay in the family's garage. Linda also has an abusive boyfriend, Doyle (Dwight Yoakum), and a homosexual best friend, Vaughan (John Ritter). If there was an award for dysfunctional families, this one would come close to winning the prize, except that Karl's own family history is even more sordid. His mother and father were abusive and Karl suffered a particularly traumatic event as a young child, caused by his parents.

Dwight Yoakum is superb as the violent boyfriend. Though he is easy to hate, set up as the villain from the moment he is introduced, he is also pitiable as he asks Linda for forgiveness, but is obviously not willing to change. He is the quintessential angry white male, and he demonstrates this by constantly yelling at Linda for allowing so many "freaks" into her home.In another excellent performance is Ritter as Vaughan. After all those years of trying to fool Mr. Roper and Mr. Furley into thinking he was gay on "Three's Company," he finally plays a gay man, but not just any gay man. He lives in a small town and consequently tries to hide his sexual orientation, although everyone seems to know his secret. He seems to feel guilty about being gay, yet he remains in the town because of his allegiance to Linda and Frank. Karl, for Vaughan, is something of a kindred spirit because they are both outcasts, and, Vaughan believes, misunderstood.

Thornton also wrote and directed the film. While the story flows, the direction is poor. This movie is long, long, long and slow, slow, slow. Although this mirrors Karl's slow speech and outlook, the approach fails. Many of the shots are extraneous to the film's purpose and are out of place. Overall, the story of Karl is a powerful one, but the Hollywood notion that he may have something more to say than he actually does is expressed in his conversation with Vaughan. "What are you thinking right now?" Simply, "I could use some more of these potaters."

Senior art reveals talent, creativity

(continued from page 18)
because there he uses the full power of his imagination and creativity in technique.

Kathy Kulis' show is a collection of black-and-white photographs of the nude body. As many students already know, the models featured in her portraits are themselves Middlebury students. As someone used to viewing only nude portraits of unknown models, it is a little more difficult for me to look at the pictures simply as bodies, rather than people. This of course means that the viewer makes a different kind of attachment to the photos.

From the mysteriously bound men to the open poses of seated models Kulis utilizes light play and positioning to create beautiful portraits. My favorite of the portraits is a series of three photos of the same man climbing a rock, one of which shows merely the man's arm clinging to the rock. In these the light on the man's body mimics the the shape of the rock underneath him.creating a subtle harmony between man and earth.

This particular exhibit will end on April 24. The next senior exhibit on display will feature the work of Maciej Ceglowski and will open on April 25.

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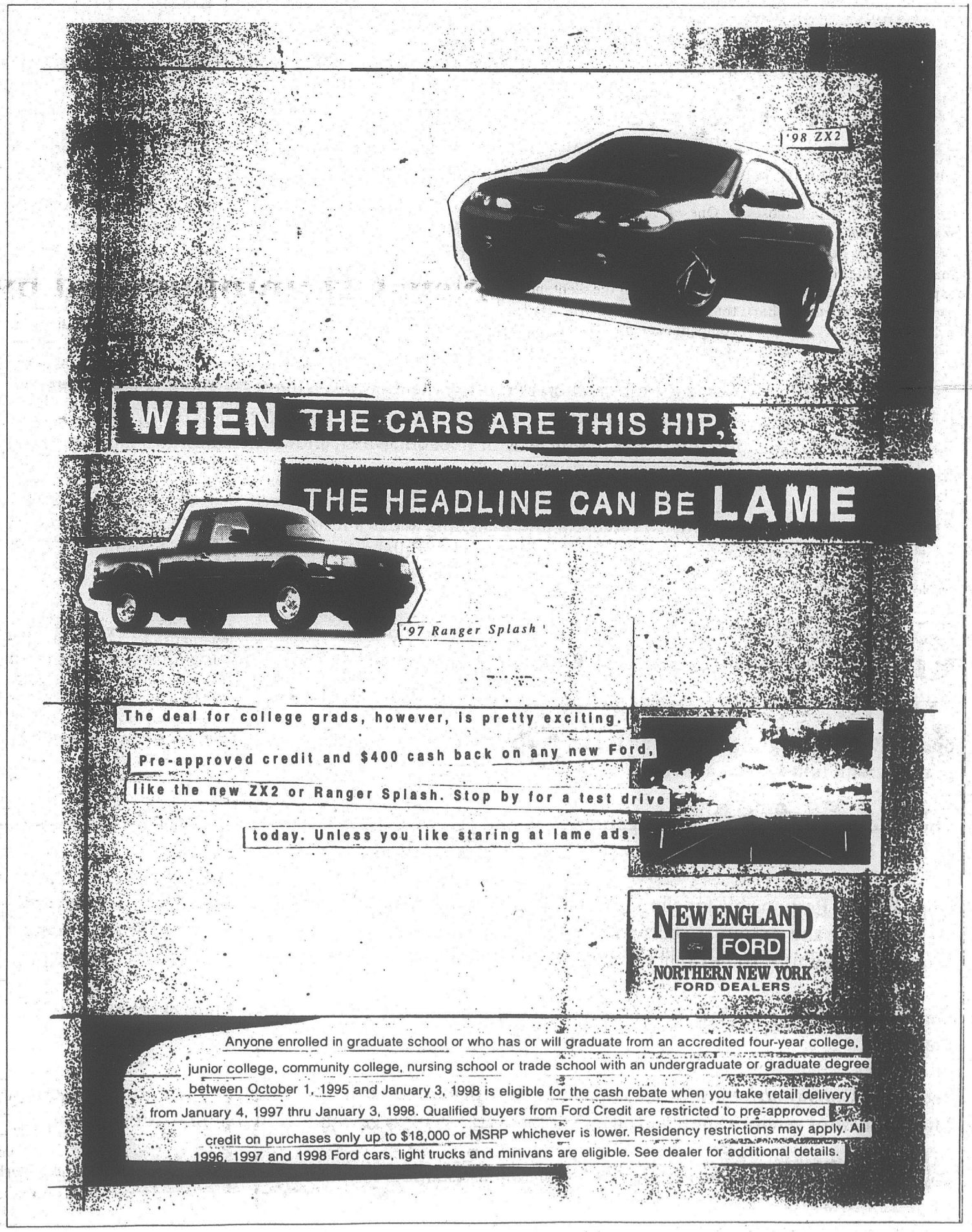
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The Middlebury Campus

The following positions with *The Middlebury Campus* are open for next fall. Newly elected staff members will be trained before the spring exam period. The fall 1997 staff will be chosen by the current editorial board. Experience with *The Campus* not required.

Applications for all positions will be available at the Student Information Desk in McCullough beginning Monday, April 21. Please return completed applications to Drawer 30 by Friday, May 2. Candidates will be contacted for interviews. If you have any questions, please contact Amanda Shoemaker at extension 6900.

Editor-in-chief: Responsible for editing, brainstorming for article ideas, writing weekly editorials and acting as liaison between section editors, photographers, production personnel and business/advertising staff. Paid position.

Managing Editor: Assists editor in chief with everything. Responsible for editing, coordinating various sections and doing sporadic trouble-shooting. Must be able to work well with people and have editing/writing experience. Paid position.

Production Manager: Oversees production and final layout of newspaper and manages production staff. Good knowledge of QuarkXPress, Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Illustrator necessary. Must be willing to work late hours. Paid position.

Business Manager: In charge of business end of newspaper including paying bills, overseeing budget, subscription mailings and circulation staff. Must be well organized and responsible. Paid position.

Advertising Manager: Solicit and layout ads. Must be outgoing, motivated and organized. Knowledge of QuarkXPress a bonus. Must be comfortable with telephone skills and bookkeeping. Paid position.

News Editor: Responsible for conceiving, assigning and editing news stories. Oversees layout of section. Must be aware of a wide spectrum of campus news and have a mind for creative journalism.

Opinions Editor: Responsible for soliciting and editing opinions pieces, letters to the editor and editorial cartoons. Must have a keen interest in campus life and a sharp eye for controversy.

Features Editor: Responsible for the creation and assignment of novel, interesting and pertinent story ideas. If you do not consider yourself quite adept at squeezing creativity out of what will become the barren desert of your mind, this position is not for you. Simultaneously, this position offers an exciting level of freedom, which allows the editor to shape the section as opposed to the section shaping the editor.

Arts Editor: Main responsibility is creating and assigning articles for the section each week, but you should also expect to help the production editor with layout. Insider knowledge of the Middlebury arts community is helpful, as is a willingness to pursue off-campus story ideas.

In Depth Editor: Must be able to come up with innovative and multi-dimensional topics to examine each week. A good sense of student interests and a creative eye are beneficial. Responsible for assigning and editing all stories and overseeing the layout of the section.

Sports Editor: Assigns and edits all sports stories. Should be familiar with members and coaches of Middlebury athletic teams and in touch with non-varsity activities.

Photo Editor: Responsible for assigning and taking photos. Must have good technical skills including knowledge of darkroom procedures. Dependability is a necessity.

Copy Editor: Responsible for elimination of all spelling, punctuation, and typographical errors. Some late nights required. Above-average spelling and grammar skills a must. Knowledge of QuarkXPress program a plus but not a requirement. You will be part of a team of copy editors, so flexibility and ability to work well with others would be advantageous. Paid position.

Online Editor: Responsibilities include uploading articles on the World Wide Web weekly and exploring the possibilities of this new medium.

Technical Consultant: Must be a computer whiz with experience in late night troubleshooting. Knowledge of QuarkXPress, current Microsoft Word versions, and the college's computer systems is essential. Minimal time commitment.

Positions as assistant section editors and production assistants are available and will be chosen from the applicant pool.

Cartoons for all ages

While many of us think of cartoons as being "just for kids," in fact, many of today's cartoon artists aim their work at an older audience, using a more subtle and sophisticated wit to delight adults. Gary Larson, for instance, uses such topics as animal intelligence to poke fun at societal mores. Nick Park, a young English animator, has created Wallace and Gromit, two endearing, cheese-loving characters whose misadventures have been the basis for three award-winning films. Bill Watterson, the creator of Calvin and Hobbes, designed his comic strip to enable adult readers to re-enter their childhood. Warner Brothers' Animaniacs has captured the attention of adults with its clever and contemporary themes as well. Apparently, being an adult no longer means you have to give up the fun of being a kid.

'The Wallace and Gromit Flick' provides humor, suspenseful action

By Emily Manning
In Depth Editor

What do you get when you mix a homely sort of Englishman who likes to invent intricate gadgets to ease the tedium of everyday chores, and a sensitive, resourceful dog who loves to read the paper and listen to Bach? (Any British person would probably answer this without a moment of hesitation.) It's Wallace and Gromit, two fun-loving plasticine characters who have captivated the animation world with their three films, "A Grand Day Out," "The Wrong Trousers," and "A Close Shave."

This twice-Oscared duo is the creation of Nick Park, an animator at Aardman Animations in Britain. While Wallace and Gromit were not his first creation, they seem to have won him the most acclaim. While his petite psychodramas sometimes seem hilariously surreal, it is easy to relate to his true-to-life characters.

Wallace and Gromit's relationship exemplifies the bond many people associate with a man and his dog; Gromit is Wallace's faithful servant who, in several instances, saves his life. The two, moreover, have distinct personality traits and interests.

Park's first Wallace and Gromit adventure, "A Grand Day Out," which was released in 1989, was a reasonable success. It's set on a bank holiday, when, as most people know, all the shops are closed. Like most of us during those dull holidays, Wallace gets bored and decides to pass his time with a bit of tea, crackers and cheese. Much to his disappointment, he discovers that there is no cheese in the cupboard.

Nonetheless, he will not let his urge go unfulfilled. He has a bright idea — why not head to the moon, which, of course, is made of cheese? He goes to the cellar, designs a rocket, and he and Gromit blast off to find their cheese. (Their affinity for gourmet cheese products, by the way, is a recurring theme in the three films.) Getting the moon cheese is far from a simple task, however. Along the way, they encounter a machine that makes all sorts of trouble for the two innocent , cheese-loving friends. It is truly a grand day out!

The film was nominated for an Oscar, but Park beat himself to it with an earlier film, "Creature Comforts," a short film featuring talking plasticine zoo animals. Nevertheless, "A Grand Day Out" won several awards, including Best Film over fifteen minutes, at the British Animation Awards.

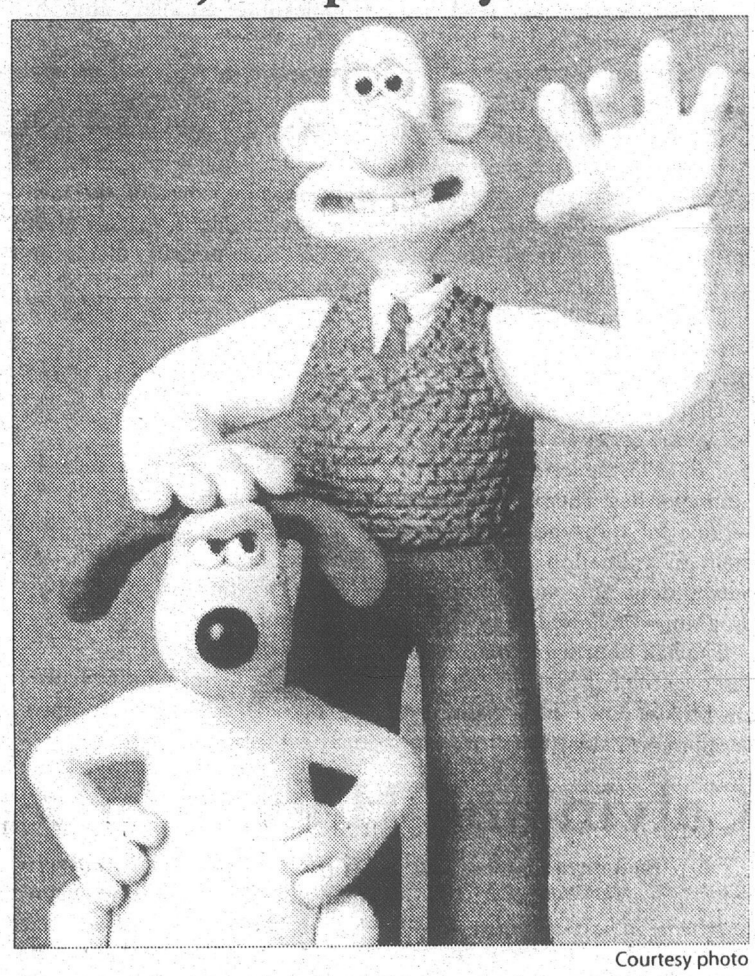
Wallace and Gromit's second adventure, "The Wrong Trousers," which was released in 1993, has a far more complex plot. The storyline involves Wallace inventing a pair of automated trousers and a villainous penguin who recruits Wallace as an unwitting accomplice in a diamond robbery. Faithful Gromit turns detective and steps in to save the day. The mayhem culminates in a suspenseful chase on a train.

"The Wrong Trousers" runs much more smoothly than "A Grand Day Out," as Park had left college and had begun working for Aardman Animations. The film also received much more in the way of funding. "The Wrong Trousers" won several awards, including the Golden Hugo Award at the Chicago International Film Festival in 1993.

Park's third Wallace and Gromit film, "A Close Shave," is even more intense than "The Wrong Trousers." The duo become involved in the window cleaning business. As Wallace schmoozes with the customers, Gromit does all the work. Park introduces a sinister bulldog, some cute sheep, and a love interest for Wallace.

Gromit suspects Wallace's woman's bulldog is behind the disappearance of the town's sheep, and, while trying to save the sheep, the poor dog gets framed. The film comes to a head with a classic plane-truck-motorcycle-conveyor belt finale.

Presently, plans for a future Wallace and Gromit adventure look bleak. The word is that Park wants to quit while the duo is ahead. He has started production of "Chicken Run," his first full length feature film. This adventure is centered around the turbulent romance between two farmyard chickens, Rocky and Ginger. Nevertheless, it is unlikely that two chickens, no matter how endearing their romance, will take the place of Wallace and Gromit, who have seemed to define a film genre of their own: "The Wallace and Gromit Flick."



Courtesy photo

Wallace and Gromit test their friendship through adventures with cheese.

'The Far Side' pokes fun at reality

By Flavio Bollag
Staff Writer

Have you ever heard anyone laugh out loud over a 'Far Side' cartoon? Most people who read these immensely popular, one-frame sketches don't. Instead they read along, smiling now and then, and only occasionally laughing out loud. However, this cartoon anomaly is not because 'The Far Side' is more serious or less funny than other cartoons. Nor is "The Far Side" deep or particularly meaningful.

The innumerable one-framers we all know are amusing because they take apart everything we hold standard, and present it the way an impartial observer might see it. "The Far Side" is ironic, odd, laughable, and often just plain weird.

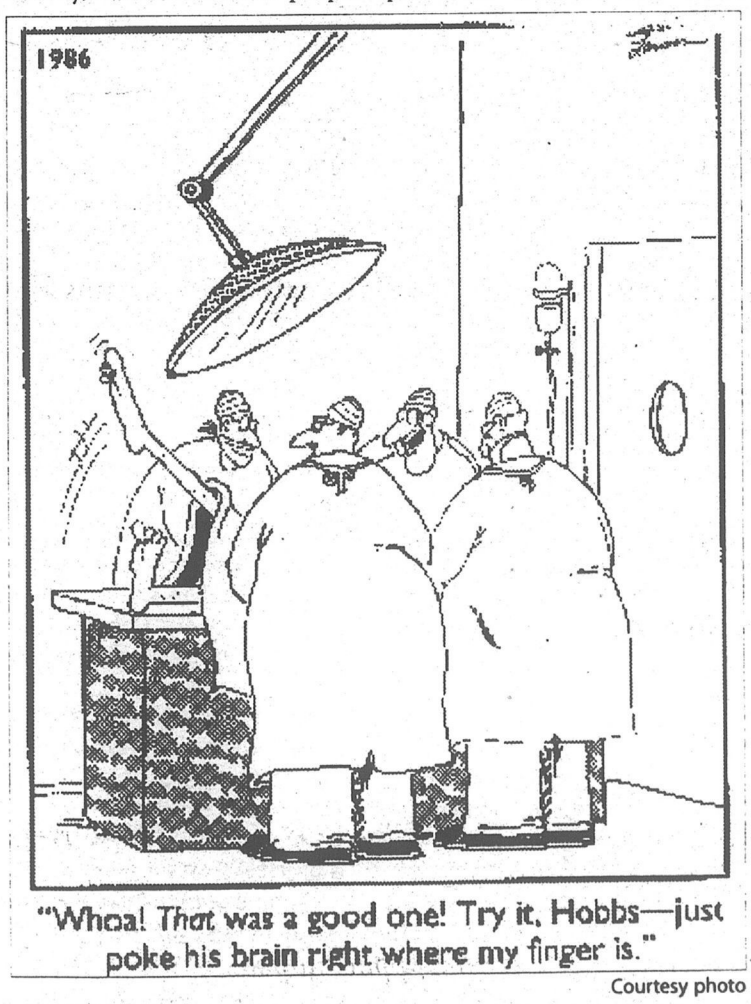
When Gary Larson, the creator and brain behind 'The Far Side,' announced in December of 1994 that he was retiring and that he would publish no new collections, the cartoon world let out a collective groan.

Not only was one of the biggest money-makers of the industry leaving, but the industry was also losing a great and very popular satirist. Perhaps Larson's earliest cartoon, or at least one whose humor derives from the scribbled "Gary Larson age sevun," in the corner, reveals his slightly macabre off-key view of the world. In this frame, several stick figures — the ancestors of Larson's trademark squared-off dumpy people — are playing volleyball. The punch line in this cartoon is that one of the men is holding a human head, and the volleyball is lying sedately in the sand. From this momentous beginning, Larson never looked back.

Inside the cover of his first "Far Side Gallery," Larson attributes much of what followed as the product of his childhood, when he would have to foray into the basement in search of firewood, and his brother would lock him down there, without the benefit of lights. His imagination was inspired by these occurrences, and a significant portion of his cartoons feature odd reptiles, Martians and other space creatures, as well as huge insects. Larson also has no compunction at all about using talking, and frequently extraordinarily intelligent animals. Anyone who needs to be funny for a living needs a source for all that amusement, and Larson's is quite plainly the real world.

When he portrays a father and son standing in a suburban backyard amidst a confusion of clapboard fences, with the father telling the son that the bird singing in the tree is staking out his territory, "an instinct common to the lower species," we would have to be blind to miss the rampant satire. Larson has seen through to the heart of property ownership, and the animalistic value we place on real estate, and he won't allow us to forget it easily.

Larson is also very comfortable with the idea of animal intelligence, and the existence of extra-terrestrial life. Whether it be a cow ringing the doorbell and running, farm animals discussing complex number theories, or two aliens holding a jar of humans, trying to make them fight, our reaction is usually the same: "Yeah, wouldn't it be funny if—."



Courtesy photo

Gary Larson's "The Far Side" cartoon pokes fun at society's greatest fears.

Animaniacs charm with genuine wit

By Darren Bloch
Associate Editor

They're Animaniacs, they have play-for-pay contracts. There's bologna in their slacks, while Bill Clinton plays the sax. They're Animaniacs.

If you have ever heard or seen the opening moments of this most recent Warner Brothers' cartoon success, you immediately know that this is no ordinary after-school animation series.

Animaniacs, which was created by Steven Speilberg and produced by Amblin Entertainment, Warner Brothers and Fox Television, first aired on September 13th, 1993, becoming an instant cult classic for those of us who longed for the sharp and caustic cartoons of the 60s, 70s and early 80s.

A quick trip through various Web sites devoted to the Animaniacs quickly demonstrates the vast variety of loyal followers. Individuals ranging from M.I.T. graduate students to middle schoolers are drawn to the cartoon for its often sarcastic, always entertaining and humorous style.

The entertainment world has not let the series go unnoticed, either. In 1993, the series won its first Emmy for Best Theme. Two others — one for outstanding achievement in animation and one for outstanding animated children's program — followed in 1996.

The half hour segments, broadcast over the Fox network, are usually broken down into smaller five or ten minute story lines involving different sets of the Animaniacs cast. The Animaniacs themselves are three "animals" (a cross between dogs, and some rodent perhaps) known as the Warner Brothers, Yakko and Wakko, and their Warner Sister, Dot.

These central characters are flanked by such other teams of characters as Pinky and the Brain (an odd couple of lab mice whose plot is to take over the world), The Good Feathers (a gang of mobster-minded pigeons, taken out of the Joe Pesci-Good Fellas mold), Slappy Squirrel and her nephew Skippy (two comically-minded critters), Mindy and Buttons (a troublesome toddler and her Lassie-esque dog who is forever coming to the rescue), and a number of others.

Almost every character has a Ferris Bueller-like self-awareness and mockery, some of the many characteristics the writers use to draw on contemporary themes and public personalities.

Satan: And now prepare to suffer indescribable torment!

Yakko: Another Bob Hope special?

or

Dot: Do you think Scratchy'd like some cologne?

Fifi: We have "Obsession", "Repression", and "Ecstasy".

Dot: Do you have something for beginners?

or

Dracula: I am Count Dracula.

Yakko: Didn't you use to teach math on Sesame Street?

But what makes the Animaniacs unlike any other contemporary afternoon cartoon, perhaps unlike any cartoon ever, is the level of sophistication and intellect that is necessary to get so many other punchlines.

Wakko: So what are we going to get Dr. Scratchy?

Dot: Oooooooh, how about an outfit from Oedipus Rex Men's Wear?

Yakko: Nah, his mom would hate those.

or

Miles Standish: Begone, pests, and give me the bird.

Yakko: We'd love to, really, but the Fox censors won't allow it.

It is not unusual for a first time viewer to finish watching an episode having gotten only half of the jokes and inferences and thinking, "Those dogs are more well read then I am."

What has made the Animaniacs such a success across all age and gender lines is that along with this ever present cleverness is a genuine and irreverent wackiness that viewers can't help but enjoy and appreciate.

Two of the chief performers of such insanity are Pinky and the Brain. Pinky, the deranged sidekick with a lispy Australian accent, provides a litany of non-sequiturs that would have anyone doubled over laughing. Such lines emanate from a regular sequence found in every episode: "Pinky, are you pondering what I'm pondering?", questions Brain, followed by such classics as:

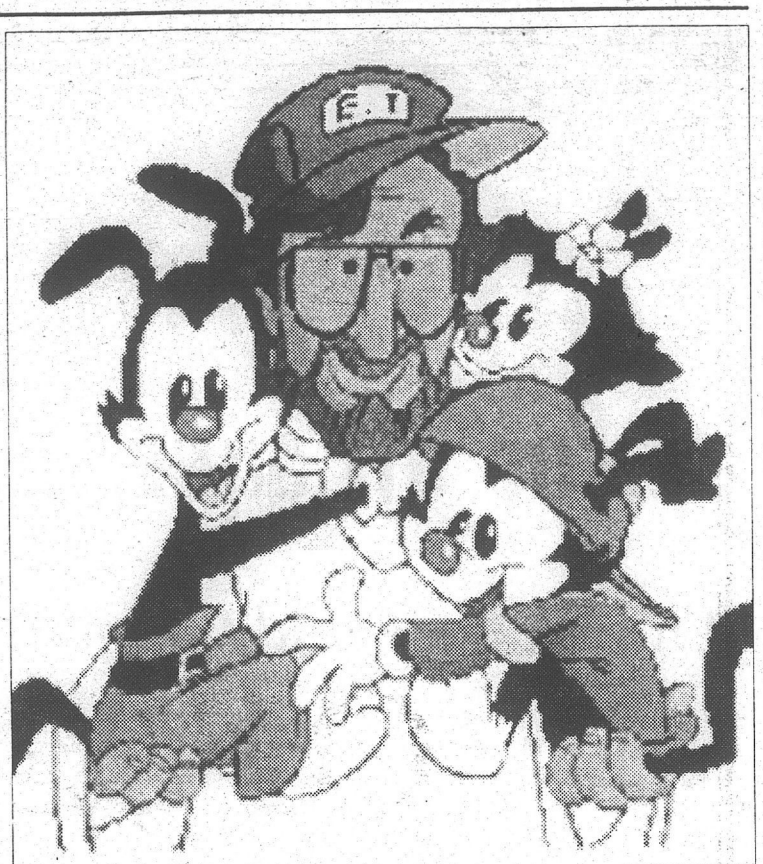
Pinky: Uh...yeah, Brain, but where are we going to find rubber pants our size?

P: Uh, I think so, Brain, but balancing a family and a career, oooh, it's all too much for me.

P: Uh, I think so, Brain, but burlap chafes me so.

P: I think so, Brain, but me and Pippi Longstocking...I mean, what would the children look like?

At a time in which studios are producing cartoons totally devoid of comedic art, wit, and cleverness, the Animaniacs stand out amongst a small group of animated series which attempt to attract a younger generation of viewers who are becoming more sophisticated, while also grabbing the attention of older generations longing for the sharp cartoons of their youth: cartoons which did not patronize kids, but exposed them to a variety of themes and styles which never ceased to entertain us and make us laugh.



Courtesy photo

Yakko, Wakko and Dot give creator Steven Speilberg a warm, loving embrace.

Calvin and Hobbes brings out the child in old and young alike

By Ramya Chari
Staff Writer

I'd hate to have a kid like me.
— Calvin

He is the little terror of a kid that audiences and fans of 'Calvin and Hobbes' have come to recognize within themselves. Since its creation in 1985, 'Calvin and Hobbes', which was created by Bill Watterson , has been one of America's favorites.

In fact, the two mischief-makers have become so precious to regular comic readers that even after Watterson retired from doing the strip in 1995, it still remains an American favorite.

The comic strip follows the daily pursuits of a little boy named Calvin and his stuffed tiger Hobbes. Together the adventuresome duo create plenty of mischief and have a blast getting into sticky situations.

Readers become engrossed in everything from their games of "Calvinball," which involves making random rules as the fun progresses, to the creation of a "transmogrifier," which involves turning Calvin into a miniature tiger, to the G.R.O.S.S. (Get Rid Of Slimy Girls) club.

Watterson's creation, however, is not only about fun and games. For the writer himself, Calvin is a sort of release. "Many of Calvin's struggles are metaphors for my own. I suspect that most of us get old without growing up, and that inside every adult (sometimes not very far inside) is a bratty kid who wants everything his own way," wrote Watterson in one of his books.

Watterson uses Calvin as an outlet for his own immaturity and as a way to keep himself curious about the natural world. Through Calvin, he also ridicules his own obsessions and comments on human nature.

"I wouldn't want Calvin in my house, but on paper, he helps me sort through my life and understand it," wrote Watterson.

Hobbes, on the other hand, was inspired by one of Watterson's cats, a gray tabby named Sprite. "Hobbes has the patient dignity and common sense of most animals I've met," explained Watterson.

Sprite was the model for Calvin's personality because she was good-natured, intelligent, and friendly. "Hobbes's reserve and tact seem very catlike to me, along with his barely contained pride in not being human.

Like Calvin, I often prefer the company of animals to people, and Hobbes is my idea of an ideal friend."

The different states of Hobbes's existence is at the center of the comic strip. In Calvin's world Hobbes is alive and as real as any normal person. Outside of his microcosm, however, Hobbes is merely a stuffed animal.

"The two versions of Hobbes is sometimes misunderstood. I don't think of Hobbes as a doll that miraculously comes to life when Calvin's around. Neither do I think of Hobbes as the product of Calvin's imagination.

When Hobbes is a stuffed toy in one panel and alive in the next, I'm juxtaposing the 'grown-up' version of reality with Calvin's version and inviting the reader to decide which is truer," Watterson explained.

The comic side of 'Calvin and Hobbes' often arises out of the wondering and questioning side of Calvin. Calvin is actually named after the sixteenth-century theologian who believed in predestination. Hobbes is named after a seventeenth-century philosopher with a dim view of human nature. Each is a fitting name for their characters.

Calvin often questions death, existence, human nature, and even the possibility of his own adoption.

Calvin's concerns reflect a childlike innocence that only his mature readers can understand. Hobbes is there not to answer Calvin's questions, but to listen, and at times impart his own cynical views on the habits of "people," as opposed to tigers.

Most of their philosophical discussions occur , oddly enough, while they are riding a wagon. Watterson most often uses Calvin's wagon when Calvin gets long-winded or philosophical. Sometimes the wagon ride even acts as a visual metaphor for Calvin's topic of discussion.

According to Watterson, Calvin's wagon ride through the woods allows Calvin and Hobbes to get away from everyone and be themselves. The solitude of the forest brings out Calvin's small, but redeeming, contemplative side."

Through 'Calvin and Hobbes' many readers recognize a part of themselves. When they read the comic they enter into a fantasy world where a child's imagination is pitted against the adult world.

But in this particular story, one world is not more real than the other, and it is up to the readers to decide which world is more real for them.

Courtesy photo

For over 10 years Calvin and his partner-in-crime, Hobbes, have danced into the hearts of kids and adults alike.

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Women's lacrosse remains unbeaten

Lax defeats Springfield, St. Lawrence, and Trinity to stay atop Division III

By Dave Smith
Sports Editor

As if it were possible to get any better, the Middlebury women's lacrosse team remained undefeated again this week by beating St. Lawrence, Springfield and Trinity.

The team actually was rather disappointed in its performance against St. Lawrence, as it committed over 40 turnovers.

This did not stop the Panthers from dismantling St. Lawrence 18-7, but it made the otherwise high-flying team a little worried that if tested by a tougher opponent, the result might not be so favorable.

Amity Wall '98 continued on her offensive tear, leading the Panthers with seven goals, followed by Wendy Hession '99 who had four, and Heidi Howard '99 who had two. Emily Bracken '98 maintained her domination over the goal, saving 14 on the day.

From there the Panthers traveled to Massachusetts to take on Springfield. Usually a tough game, Springfield really did not offer Middlebury much in the way of a challenge, and the Panthers rolled to an easy 16-6 victory.

For all you statisticians and/or gamblers out there, this is the second time that Middlebury has defeated a team by a score of 16-6. Weird, huh?

Five people scored multiple times in this contest, including Lina Chickering '98 who had five and Whit Parks '97 who had three. Bracken had her best game statistically of the season, saving 22 shots on goal.

In a more difficult test, the Panthers went up against Trinity on Tuesday. The outcome is never guaranteed, but the Panthers were able to roll to a 20-12 win. The Trinity win was especially sweet.

Despite the 18-7 win over St. Lawrence, the Panthers were upset with the amount of turnovers they committed. If the problem persists, a stronger team might be able to exploit it to their advantage.

Thus far this season, Middlebury has only played on the road. The unofficial policy of the Panthers has been to roll into town, politely introduce themselves, and proceed to kick a**.

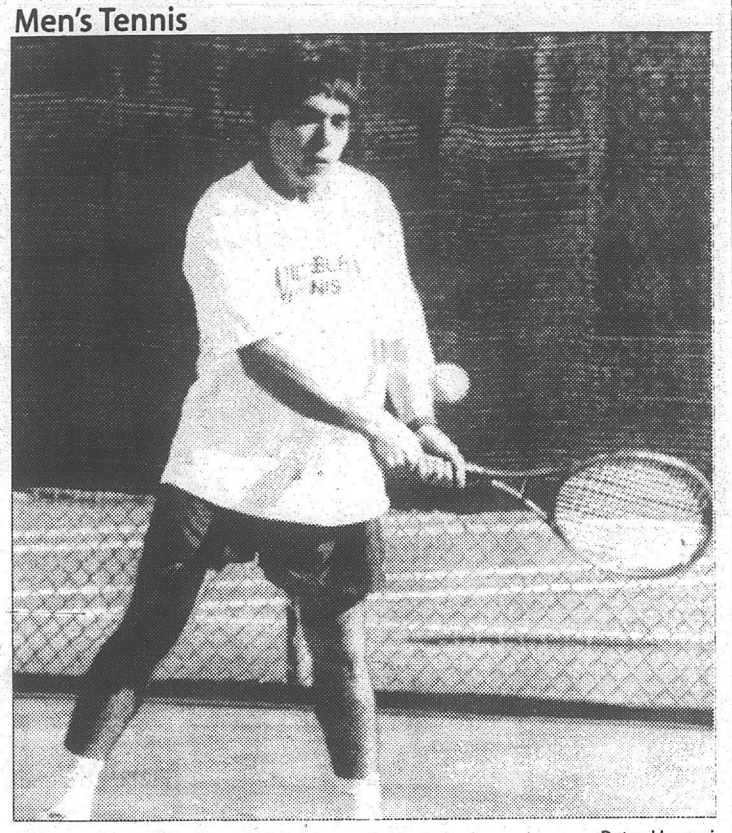
From there the team returns home and meets at Leatherworks or the Green Hornet for casual conversation and "team bonding" — which is mildly dirty.

Liz Aybar '97 was overheard saying one day: "During lacrosse season after games I'm either exhausted, drunk, or both."

The undefeated, number-one ranked Panthers will finally be home for a weekend. The team will be playing Bates this Friday and Bowdoin on Saturday. Fans are encouraged to come out and witness the raw power that is Middlebury women's lacrosse.

Aybar continued in what can only be presumed to be an exhausted state, "I just want to let my fans know that I have a big wooden stick and I'm not afraid to use it. We use zone defense not only because it is unbeatable, but it also puts us in better position to help each other when we start brawls."

Men's Tennis



Peter Huoppi

Khaled Saffouri '97 led men's tennis to a 4-3 win over Bates. Kip Digges, Will Parker, and Rick Morgan won singles matches.

Sailing club gets its feet wet in first regatta of year

By Jason MacMurray and Chris Morgan
Staff Writer and Opinions Editor

As the ice began to melt here in Vermont, the sailing team turned its thoughts from skiing to sailing in the warmer waters of southern New England.

Despite the school's fear of unsupervised drunken mayhem, the team has remained under control competing in two regattas over the past two weekends, one at Connecticut College and another at the University of Rhode Island.

Early in the spring the sailing club received approval to travel to regattas without a coach as was previously required.

The team posted respectable finishes at both regattas even though it cannot practice due to lack of boats. Some of the victims of Middlebury's onslaught were the established varsity programs with paid coaches, both which are a novelty to the Middlebury team.

The first regatta was the Vietor Trophy at Connecticut College with pleasant sailing conditions. Winds were light, and because it was the first regatta of the spring season spirits were high.

Jason MacMurray's '99.5 and Jessica Silverman's '00 early success helped put Middlebury into contention, leaving other schools to wonder who these adventurous people were and from where they came.

The remainder of the races were not up to the previously established standards, but the team still finished a respectable nine out of 14 teams just behind six nationally ranked teams.

The highlight of the day for crew member Silverman was not her fourth-place finish in one race, but instead the submarine which came to the surface during that race. On the long drive home she could be heard muttering to herself about the close call she had with the sub — a fact which she immediately reported to her father, an ardent supporter of the Middlebury College sailing team.

The following weekend the team attempted to surpass its previous results with another trip to southern New England, and URI, for the Dinghy Invite. Conditions were less than ideal for the regatta as winds gusted to 40 miles per hour, rain fell and temperatures sat just above freezing.

Following a two-hour delay, as a result of the high winds, the regatta was set to begin. Only at this point did the team realize that they would be sailing in Tech dinghies which no member of the team had ever seen before.

Crew member, physics major, and aspiring engineer Dan "the man" Urbano '98 was heard commenting, "These boats are cheesier than the movie we just watched. Are those guys at MIT supposed to be smart? This is the slowest boat I've ever sailed in."

Despite a slow start both teams rallied late to a sixth-place finish out of 10 boats.

A Providence College sailor was amazed by Middlebury's high finish and said, "You guys don't even have boats and you're still beating people!?"

This coming weekend the team will be traveling to the New England Dinghy Championships at Stonehill College in Massachusetts, another six-hour drive for the team, followed by the Connecticut College Invite the next day.

The following weekend will conclude the season with a regatta at Salve Regina University. The team hopes to show continued improvement throughout these regattas by posting even better results.

Throughout the spring season interest in the team has grown by leaps and bounds and the hope is that more students will want to participate in upcoming events this spring and into next fall.

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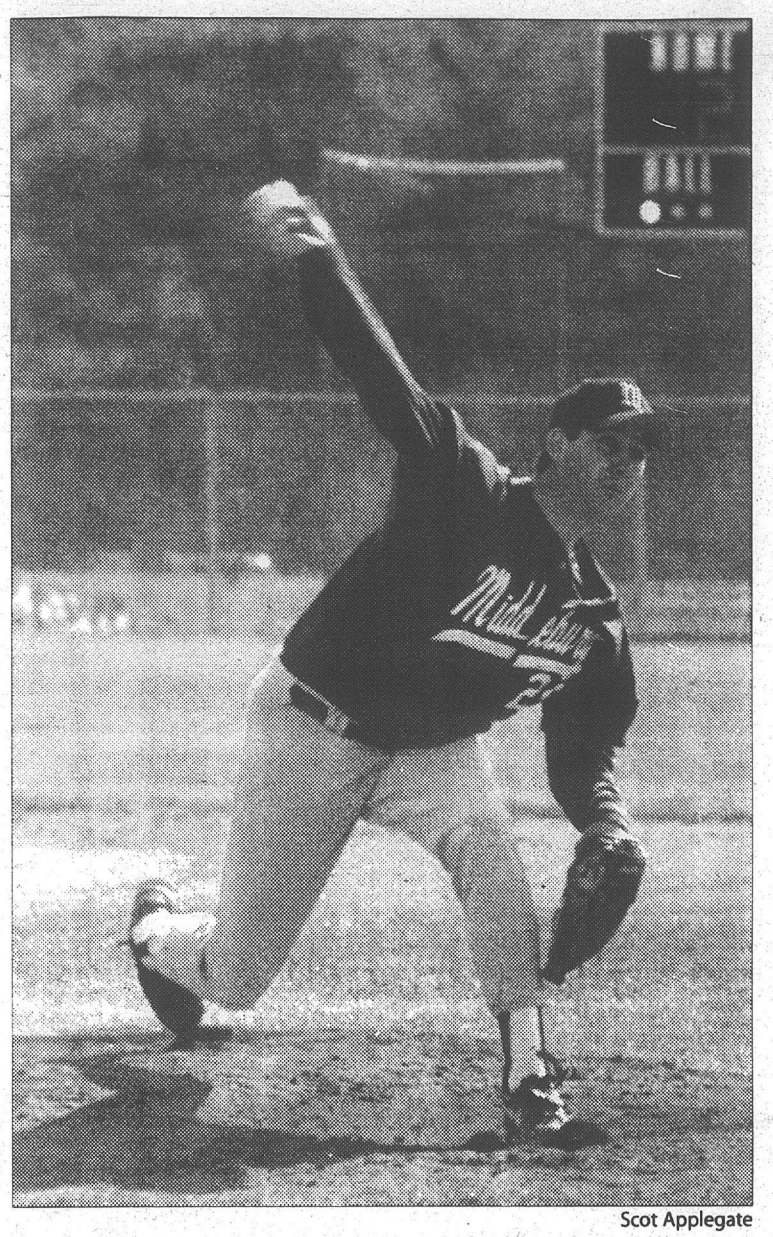

Scot Applegate

Colin O'Neil '98 held the Catamounts to only five hits in last week's game.

Panther crew sweeps UConn regatta

By Ted Adler
Staff Writer

They sleep through early morning classes, wander around campus in fleece and navy-blue jackets, and are never around on the weekends. Who could they be but the Middlebury crew team?

This past weekend their hard work and year-round determination paid off as the team spoiled University of Connecticut's home opener, winning every race they entered. While the opposition parents called them "animals" and asked Coach Alex Machi what the team was fed, the rowers completed their sweep in dramatic fashion.

The women's novice eight set the tone for the day winning the first race with a time of 7:52, beating UConn. The eight girls dedicated their victory to their spiritual mentor, Jim Thomson '00.

The ladies were followed by the men's varsity heavyweight four. The heavies won the closest race of the day, beating Assumption College, Worchester State, UConn, and a boat of their own teammates with a time of 7:03.

The next race belonged to Middlebury's varsity women lightweight four. Continuing their unbeaten spring season, they defeated Worchester, UConn and Assumption with a time of 8:12.

One of the biggest, and most surprising races of the day was the women's novice four competition. Middlebury entered a boat at the last minute, taking four women from the novice eight boat.

Even having never rowed together in a four-person boat, the women took an early lead. However, when one rower caught a crab, Assumption College's boat took the lead. Not to be detoured, the women regained the lead finishing with a time of 8:33.

The men's varsity lightweight four continued the landslide with a solid victory over Worchester and UConn with a time of 7:01. Even though a wandering fishing boat forced the lightweights off-course, they had the fastest time of the day in a four-person boat.

The most resounding victory of the day came in the men's novice eight race. Middlebury's novice men, the crème de la crème of the program, crushed a conglomerate boat from UConn and Worchester with a time of 7:02.

After the race, one UConn rower commented, "During the race we caught a crab and had to stop rowing. We fell so far behind that we decided to finish the race, even though we could not catch Middlebury."

The novice men's own Chris Ashley '00 added, "It was good to get a victory. We dropped our time substantially over last week. The competition should toughen up next week, so we'll see what happens." Johan Lane '00, Ashley's partner in crime, concluded that "Our hard work is paying off as we continue to improve. Overall, it was a good race, and I'm still looking for a date next weekend."

The last win of the day belonged to the Middlebury men's varsity eight. Finishing off UConn by several boat lengths, the eight's time of 6:38 was the best of the day. The celebration began as the team headed back to Middlebury.

Five a.m. practice will not seem so bad this week as the team prepares for its showdown in Lowell, Massachusetts this weekend. The Lowell regatta should act as a stepping stone for the New England Championships the weekend after in Boston.

Baseball wins one at Colby tripleheader

(continued from page 28)

and purposes, a defensive battle. Pitcher Scott Dudley '99 went the distance, allowing four runs on seven hits, and he never let the White Mules pull away. Unfortunately, the Panther bats did not quite answer the call.

First-year shortstop Andrew Katz had Middlebury's sole offensive highlight, with a crushing two-run homer in the third inning to knot the score at two. This was all the offense the Panthers could muster, though, and Colby went on to score two more runs — taking the first game of the triple-header 4-2.

The second game started off poorly for Middlebury, as Colby jumped out to an 8-0 lead by the third inning. The Panthers then seemed to calm down a bit and turned an impending blowout into a respectable game by scoring five runs in the last four innings.

Davin Wilfrid shouldered most of the burden for Middlebury — smacking two home-runs in four attempts, while trying to rally his teammates.

Outfielder John Pless '99 also answered the call for the Panthers, going 2-4 with two doubles. Pitching duties were shared by sophomores A.J. Husband and Todd Brandenberger, and first-year Ben Bedford. The final score of game two: 11-5.

The third game of the day displayed a much more determined Panther squad take to the field. Led by the great pitching of senior co-captain Rick Durst, Middlebury managed to bring home a gutsy 4-3 win.

Durst pitched all seven innings for the Panthers, giving up a mere five hits to the already-proven Colby batting order.

Junior catcher Ron Nobile cranked his fourth homer of the year early in the game to get the ball rolling for Middlebury. He was to save his best for last, though, as in the top of the seventh with the score tied 2-2, Nobile again played hero and belted a two-run homer.

For those of you who don't remember, it was also Nobile who hit the clutch grand slam two weeks ago against Castleton State to seal the game for his team.

Middlebury head coach Bob Smith summarized the weekend appropriately when he said, "We had to scratch and claw for everything we got."

Indeed, it was a tough weekend for the Panthers, but their win in the last game of the triple-header proved they were willing to do what it takes. This is a sign of good things to come.

Water polo earns trophy at Bowdoin tournament

By Mike McCollum
Staff Writer

The Middlebury water polo club swam to a 2-1 victory in this weekend's annual Greater Middlebury Sean Henry Memorial Water Polo Tournament against Bowdoin and Amherst. The team began the tournament against Bowdoin College at the Natatorium on Friday night. Middlebury jumped out to an early two-point lead against the Polar Bears, after a high-paced attack led by Adam Sobek '99, Forrest Westin '99, and Justin Alden '00. Though the Bears were able to rally, Middlebury was still ahead at the half by a score of eight to seven, thanks to the untiring efforts of first-year Jamie McBride. McBride said, "It was fun to play against such good players and still be able to win." If that did not give the ending away, Middlebury came back from a two-point deficit to win the game in spectacular fashion with only six seconds remaining.

With only 10 minutes to recover and regroup from the hour-long ordeal, the Panthers were back in the water to face the Lord Jeffs of Amherst. Middlebury was able to play three quarters of tight defense and high-powered offense, swapping leads with Amherst throughout, before fatigue finally overcame the Panthers. Amherst was finally able to overtake Middlebury, who had now been in the water for nearly two hours, to win by a score of 12 to 9. Only the never-say-die spirit of Middlebury's Geoff Sivlius '99 was able to rally the Panthers to come as close as they did. The Middlebury squad then showed great determination as they came back to beat Union in a rather one-sided contest, preventing them from scoring even a single point.

The next morning Middlebury overcame the night's festivities to play a final game for the championship trophy against Bowdoin, who had defeated Amherst earlier that day. Though both teams were worn out by the games of the previous rounds, neither backed off, playing two halves of hard offense and harder defense.

Middlebury was able to beat the Polar Bears once more, however, by a score of three to one in a hard-fought defensive battle keeping the Sean Henry Memorial trophy where it belongs.

Middlebury softball trounces Colby-Sawyer in double bill

(continued from page 28)

sive play of the game, the defense also had a large role in the win. Kim Conaty '99 pitched a two-hitter, striking out three.

Springer and Campbell made some amazing grabs at second and first, and probably the most spectacular play of the game came when catcher Mitchell threw a runner out at second, and the shortstop Gorski threw out the runner on third who was attempting to come home, completing a sensational double play.

Congratulations to the Panthers on their first two wins, and keep up the good work!

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Men's Spring Sports	
Lacrosse vs. Springfield	10-7
Baseball vs. Colby	2-4, 5-11, 4-3
Tennis vs. Bates	4-3

The Campus Sports

Women's Spring Sports	
Lacrosse vs. Springfield	16-6
Lacrosse vs. St. Lawrence	18-7
Softball vs. Colby-Sawyer	12-2

Softball trounces Colby-Sawyer for first victories of season

Deadline

By Molly Chamberlin
Staff Writer

The Middlebury softball team made short work of Colby-Sawyer in a doubleheader Capitalizing on the perfect softball weather of the day, the Panthers came out ready last Tuesday, April 15 to avenge their losses in the season openers.

Middlebury knew that it was going to be a great game after Jackie Britt '99 struck out two in the top of the first. The Panthers then came to the plate armed with big sticks and throwing fast balls.

Crystal Springer '00 led off with a hit and then promptly stole second. Then came Stacey "Pigpen" Gorski '99, who reached base on a walk.

A sacrifice bunt by Karen Mitchell '99 and a sacrifice fly by Shani Herzig '00 scored Gorski and Springer.

The two runs were followed by a Christine "Shades" Knox '99 single and another hit, this time by Beth Hunter '99. Knox scored on a Colby-Sawyer error, and Hunter scored on a Molly "Tex" Campbell '98 run batted in (RBI) single.

After the dust cleared, the Panthers were up 4-0 going into the second inning.

Once again Britt was on fire, striking out two more batters in a one-two-three inning. Although the bottom of the second was quiet offensively for Middlebury, the third inning proved to be a scoring fest.

Mitchell led off with a hit, and then Herzig reached base on a fielder's choice. Knox followed with a hit, and she and Herzig scored on a Hunter double and Campbell single.

Two runs were not enough for the Panthers, however, and Janice O'Neil '99 slammed a double, which scored Hunter and Campbell. Springer reached base on an error, and then Gorski lined a single into centerfield to score O'Neil.

The inning closed with Mitchell and Herzig both hitting RBI singles to score Springer and Gorski. The immense damage had been done — the Panthers led 11-0.

Although Colby-Sawyer scored a lone run in the fifth, it was not enough to defeat mighty Middlebury. The Panthers did not score after the third, although Britt and O'Neil both had late-game hits; however, 11 runs were plenty. The final score was 11-1, with Britt throwing a three-hitter.

The Panthers had no time to bask in their glory, though, because another game was yet to be played. This time Middlebury had first at-bats, and the Panthers took advantage of the situation to put a few runs on the board early.

Springer led off with a hit and scored due to a Gorski RBI single and some great base running. Mitchell followed with an RBI single to score Gorski, and Mitchell scored on a double by Elise Young '00.

After holding Colby-Sawyer scoreless in the first, the Panthers were again ready to draw blood. Wendy Peterson '97 reached base on an error, was advanced on a Springer sacrifice fly, and scored on a Gorski RBI single. Mitchell followed with a hit, scoring Gorski, who herself scored on a Herzig RBI.

In the top of the third, the Panthers scored yet again, this time after Young reached base on an error and scored off a hit by Peterson. Colby-Sawyer answered with two runs in the bottom of the third, but the Panthers were by no means finished.

Springer started the fourth inning with a single, and Gorski had a little surprise for Colby-Sawyer. She dug in, swung hard, and hit the first home run of the Panther's season.

Hillary Guttman '00 kept the excitement going with a single, followed by a hit from Knox and an RBI from Young.

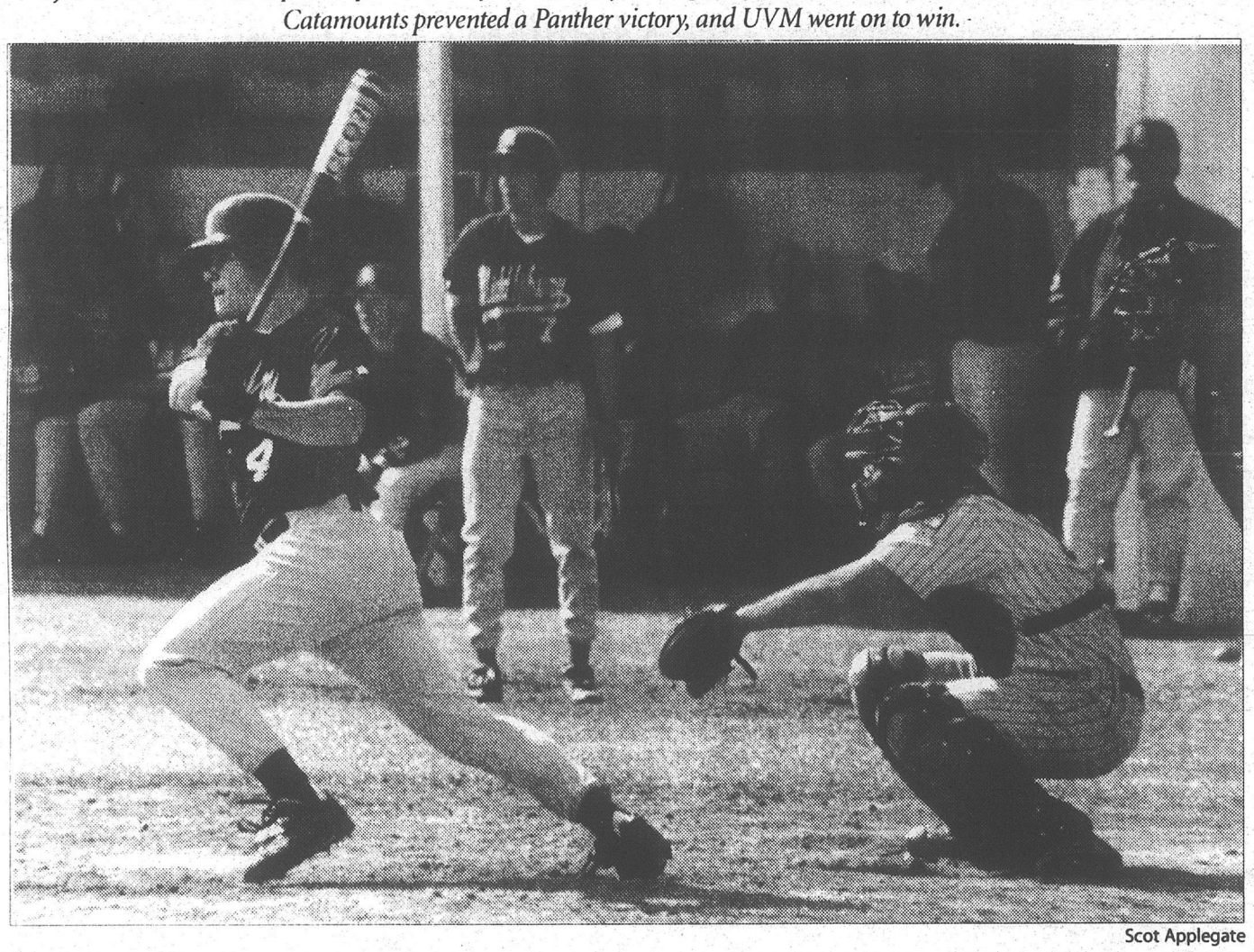
In the top of the fifth, the Panthers decided to put the game to rest by scoring two more runs. These came after Meredith Fisher '00 singled and stole second, Springer sacrificed her to third, and Gorski reached base on an error, scoring Fisher.

Mitchell then scored Gorski with an RBI single. The game was over, and Middlebury had once again triumphed, 12-2.

In addition to the great offen-

(see Softball, page 27)

Andy McPhee '98, (#4) helped keep Middlebury in the hunt for an upset of the University of Vermont. Timely hitting by the Catamounts prevented a Panther victory, and UVM went on to win.



Scot Applegate

Baseball team takes one of three versus Colby

The story of the game was the outstanding pitching of Colin O'Neil '98, who went eight and a third innings for Middlebury, while allowing the Catamounts only five hits.

By Brady Priest
Staff Writer

The Middlebury College baseball team went into the latter half of the week expecting some tough games, and that is exactly what they got.

With one game against the Catamounts of the University of Vermont, who compete at the Division I level, and three games at far-away Colby College, the Panthers unfortunately ended up with one win and three losses.

Despite the damage in the win-loss column, the squad had plenty of highlights, including the pitching of Colin O'Neil '98, and the hitting of fellow juniors Davin Wilfrid and Ron Nobile.

The Panthers put in an amazing effort against a powerful University of Vermont squad Wednesday. The Panthers would have won had Catamount star Brendan Burke not hit a clutch grand slam in the top of the ninth inning to seal a Catamount victory.

The story of the game was the outstanding pitching of Colin O'Neil, who went eight and a third innings for Middlebury, while allowing the University of Vermont only five hits. O'Neil kept his team close all game and gave the numerous Middlebury fans plenty to cheer about.

The Panthers were led offensively once again by Davin Wilfrid, who went 3-4 on the day with two Runs Batted In (RBI). Wilfrid is now batting .536 (15-28) for the season and has been the team's most consistent hitter all year. This game, although disappointing, was unquestionably the Panthers' best effort so far this season.

After playing such a great game against the University of Vermont, the Panthers were once again jinxed by their worst enemy — the weather.

The freak snowstorm last week forced the Panthers into hiding, and made what was supposed to be three games in two days into a three-game marathon on Sunday.

The first of the three games against Colby was, for all intents

(see Baseball, page 27)

Men's lacrosse raises ranking up to 7th place

By Liz D'Agostino
Staff Writer

Finally able to host the opposition at home, the Panther men's lacrosse team played well in its three home games. The team ended the home-game streak strongly, and improved its national ranking from 10th to seventh.

The Panthers matched up for their first home game against the University of Vermont on Wednesday, April 16, giving Middlebury fans the chance to finally cheer on their fellow students. The game was closely matched and both teams played fiercely for the duration.

The first quarter came to a close with Middlebury at a 5-4 lead. As the game continued it remained close with Vermont at a 6-5 lead at half-time. This lead crept up to 10-7 by the end of the third quarter. Middlebury offense came out strong in the fourth to tie the game at 10-10. The tie score was due to two goals by senior co-captain Nick Whitman and one by sophomore Adam Pascal in the fourth quarter. With three minutes remaining, Vermont managed to net a goal taking the lead. Whitman had a close chance to scoring with one second remaining, but the Panthers unfortunately could not finish it off. Regardless of the score, the Panthers played strongly until the very last second, and first-year goalie Dave Campbell had a career high in saves with 15. Ready to tackle their next home opposition on Saturday, April 19, the Panthers ran into an ironic obstacle. Due to the fact that Middlebury became the dumping ground for six inches of snow on Friday, the Men's lacrosse team was shoveling the field — instead of playing a lacrosse game — on Saturday! Luckily enough, the sun reappeared on Sunday making possible their game against Bowdoin.

Ready to redeem their loss to Vermont on home territory, the Panthers did not give Bowdoin a chance. They kept their guard up at all times and claimed an 18-15 win over Bowdoin. Like the Vermont game, the teams were evenly matched and the game remained close. The score was 10-7 at halftime, and at the end of the third quarter, the Panthers found themselves in another tie-game situation. Due to junior Brandon Mollet's stamina in the net and a offense that never shut down, the Panthers came out victorious. Pascal led the Panthers with seven goals while Whitman followed with four goals and two assists.